

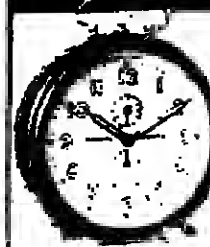
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# ARAB TIMES

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## Iraq withdraws from Iranian town

# Saddam offers Tehran peace

BAGHDAD, July 17, (AP) President Saddam Hussein declared today that following Iraq's recent battlefield victories Iran's rulers should abandon their illusions of victory and accept an "honourable" peace ending the eight-year-old war.

"Iran's rulers have to accept the peace road, they have to abandon their unjust dreams and foolish mottos and slogans, their hollow illusions after their defeats," the Iraqi leader declared in a speech broadcast live nationwide by Baghdad Radio.

A military communique issued shortly after Saddam's speech said Iraqi forces withdrew from the Iranian border town of Dehloran which they seized last Tuesday, after purging the area of Iranian troops.

### Dehloran

There was no immediate Iranian comment to the Iraqi report. The liberation of Zubeidat and capture of Dehloran was the latest of a series of Iraqi victories this year that chased Iranian troops out of almost all the Iraqi territory they had seized in the past six years.

Saddam said these victories could pave the way for a peaceful settlement and urged Iran to accept the year-old UN Security Council call for ceasefire in the war.

Saddam's speech on the 20th anniversary of his Arab Baath Socialist Party's seizure of power in 1968 emphasised the series of recent battlefield victories which purged Iraqi border areas almost completely of Iranian troops.

### Confident

"Iraq stands now on victorious ground... confident today and in the future. Iraqis and the noble Arabs now stand on victorious peaks while the rulers of Iran are in the trench of defeat and shame," he said.

"Iraq extends the hand of honourable peace and calls on the Iranian rulers to draw lessons from their defeats," he added.

Saddam said that the correct path to peace should be based on live "clear and obvious principles." He listed them as follows:

- Total and unconditional withdrawal to international borders.
- Total and prompt exchange of prisoners of war.
- The signing of a peace and non-aggression agreement between Iraq and Iran.
- Non-intervention in (each other's) internal affairs and respect for each country's elected choices.
- Peace between Iraq and Iran must be a positive element for establishing security and stability to the area, and especially to the Gulf region.
- Iran maintains there can be no end to the protracted conflict.



Saddam Hussein

before Iraq is branded as the aggressor and the overthrow of President Hussein.

Iraq also insists on the acceptance of its terms before agreeing to implement a UN Security Council resolution, approved unanimously on July 20 last year, which calls for a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Iraq has accepted the resolution and demands an international arms embargo against Iran. The embargo demand is supported by the United States

but opposed by the Soviet Union.

Saddam declared that "Iraq strongly rejects any attempt to impose a partial settlement to the war or to deviate from the principles set by the (UN) resolution. This will amount to rewarding the Iranian regime for its rejection and obstinacy."

He went on to blame unnamed international parties of encouraging Iran not to accept the Security Council ceasefire call.

"It is regrettable that certain international circles have been taking part in this game. But whatever their intentions, they are miscalculating, misassessing the situation," he added.

### Liberated

Saddam first listed his five-point plan for ending the war in an open letter to the Iranian leadership in August 1986.

But his plea for peace this time is backed by Iraq's recent series of military victories.

Over the past three months Iraq has liberated most of its territory that it took Iran six years to capture in the war that will be eight years old in September.

Saddam stressed in his speech that any settlement should guarantee Iraq's navigation rights along the Shatt Al Arab waterway, which forms the southernmost border with Iran. (Continued on Page 2)

## Sheikh Saad ends US visit

WASHINGTON, July 17, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Kuwait, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, left Washington last night after a successful six-day visit to the United States.

He left for Munich where he will stay for a few days before returning to Kuwait.

Kuwaiti officials expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the visit and the extensive meetings which were held in the US.

One official said the visit had opened a new chapter in Kuwaiti-American relations.

### Aspect

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister met President Reagan, Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci, acting Secretary of State John Whitehead, and members of the US Congress.

Sheikh Saad also met twice with Vice-President George Bush and on Friday he met the National Security Adviser Colin Powell in the presence of Assistant Secretary of Defence Richard Armitage.

His major policy speech at the National Press Club on Wednesday was highlighted by the American media.

Sheikh Saad's talks covered every aspect of the Kuwait-US



Sheikh Saad shaking hands with US officials before his departure from US.

relationship in addition to the security situation in the Gulf, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Kuwait's arms purchases from the US particularly the F-18 deal and other important issues.

One State Department official said the visit "went even beyond our expectations." The official said Sheikh Saad and the accompanying delegation did a great job in expressing Kuwait's posi-

tion and points of view.

Sheikh Saad and the accompanying delegation were seen off by acting Secretary of State John Whitehead and top administration officials.

## Salary ceiling for parents' visas

By Lima Al Khalafawi

MINIMUM salaries stipulated for the government and private sector for visas for parents are identical to those for family visas (wife and children).

Clarifying the issue, the director of the immigration department at the capital governorate, Colonel Ahmed Al Wobait, said that an applicant wishing to sponsor his parents should draw a monthly salary of KD450 if employed by the government sector and KD600 if employed by private sector.

### Combined

Further, he said, the combined salary of the husband and wife are not acceptable. Only individual salary of the actual sponsor is valid. Combined salaries of the same person working in two places, even if legally, will not be accepted either. Only one salary of the applicant will be considered.

## 12 die in Punjab violence

NEW DELHI, July 17, (Reuters): An Indian police inspector and three Sikh separatists were killed in an early morning gun battle near the Punjab town of Chandigarh today, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

It said the four were among 12 people killed today in the bloody campaign for an independent Sikh homeland in the north Indian state which has cost more than 1,500 lives this year.

### Fierce

The agency said inspector Jagjit Singh was shot dead during a fierce encounter with four separatist militants that lasted nearly one hour.

Two policemen were wounded, while one of the four militants escaped, PTI said.

## Rafsanjani briefs leaders on war

NICOSIA, July 17, (Reuters): Iranian military supreme Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has for the first time since his appointment briefed the three branches of government on the military and political situation in Iran.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said today that Rafsanjani, made military supreme on June 2 in the wake of a string of battlefield defeats by Iraq, stressed the need for more regular troops and volunteers at the war-fronts.

The agency said Rafsanjani, who is also parliamentary Speaker, said Iran's Muslim clerical leaders were needed at the front more now than ever before.

Rafsanjani said last week that Iran would be placing more emphasis on its regular armed forces although the volunteers were needed at the front in the short term.

### Gulf war talks

BAGHDAD, July 17, (Reuters): A senior Soviet official arrived in Baghdad today for talks with Iraqi sources said would cover the Iran-Iraq war and other Middle East issues.

The official Iraqi news agency quoted first Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov as saying his visit was aimed at "holding consultations on several issues of common interest."

He visited Iraq last October on a tour which also took him to Kuwait and Iran.

## Convicts linked to Sadat killing escape

CAIRO, July 17, (Reuters): Three Egyptian convicts serving life terms for plotting revolution and for being connected with the assassination of former President Anwar Sadat, escaped from prison today by overpowering guards with a crowbar and small firebombs, made from match boxes, security sources said.

The sources said the prisoners, armed with a crowbar, broke down the door to their cell in the top-security Torah jail near Cairo and overpowered two guards, later reported in stable condition in hospital.

### Jumped

Using a rope made of clothes, they scaled a prison wall where they found a sentry asleep, the sources said. They took his gun and shot him in the hand when he awoke, alerting other guards.

Tossing about 10 of the small match box firebombs they jumped down the wall and escaped, the sources said.

The government offered an

unspecified "big reward" for information leading to the rest of the prisoners, members of the banned Islamic Jihad (holy struggle) organisation, the Interior Ministry said. Police were put on alert.

The three were convicted in a case arising from the assassination by Muslim zealots of Sadat in Oct 1981, security sources said.

They were among 16 sentenced to hard labour for life after a trial of 302 Muslim fundamentalists which ended in September 1984. Judges acquitted 174 defendants and others found guilty were sentenced to lesser jail terms.

The ministry statement named the escapees as Khamis Mohammed Muslem Qumrash, 40, Mohammed Mahmoud Saleh Al Aswani, 31, and Essam Eddin Mohammed Kamel El Qamari, 37.

The five Jihad members who assassinated Sadat as he watched a military parade were executed.

### Police given shoot-on-sight orders

## Riot-hit Hyderabad under curfew

HYDERABAD, July 17, (AP): Police imposed a "shoot-on-sight" curfew after gunmen attacked the mayor today, sparking riots, official Radio Pakistan said. At least three people were killed, including the mayor's driver and a municipal councillor.

Ali Hasan, a resident of the Hyderabad suburbs, said police announced by loudspeaker "not to come out of the house, otherwise you'll be shot down."

Hyderabad is 110 miles (176 kilometres) north of the southern port city of Karachi.

### Spread

Mayor Aftab Sheikh was hospitalised with four bullet wounds but was out of danger, officials said. His driver, who was hit seven times, was initially reported in critical condition and later died.

The radio said the gunmen also killed a Hyderabad mun-

icipal councillor who was accompanying the mayor to a funeral.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

Witnesses said that after word of the shooting spread, riots broke out and mobs set fire to 15 cars and several banks, shops and gas pumps. The Army was sent in to quell the rioting. One teenager was reported dead. He was believed to have been killed during the riot.

Shops in the city of Mirpur Khas, 50 miles (80 kilometres) north of Hyderabad, closed to protest the shooting.

Residents and government officials said they feared the shooting would rekindle clashes involving two factions: one urging independence for Pakistan's southern province of Sind and another involving immigrants to Pakistan from India.

A clash last month between the two groups left 37 dead and more than 100 injured.

## Arab shot dead while trying to snatch gun

TEL AVIV, July 17, (Reuters): An Israeli soldier shot dead a Palestinian who tried to snatch his gun in a Tel Aviv suburb today in the first killing of an Arab inside Israel since the uprising in the occupied territories began seven months ago.

Police said 18-year-old Yossi Hadasi shot a West Bank Palestinian in the chest after he and two other Arab assailants tried to grab his M-16 rifle at a busstop in Petah Tikva, east of Tel Aviv.

Police declined to identify the dead man, but Palestinian sources named him as 21-year-old Salim Mahzoul from Jit village near Tulkarem.

Hadasi, who was conscripted two months ago, said one Arab leapt on him from behind and while he was struggling with him two others attacked him.

### Assault

"I elbowed the attacker in the ribs and threw him aside. I distanced myself... and loaded (the gun) and I fired. The two assailants who tried to assault me during the attack of the first escaped because they saw I shot him and they did not want to get hurt," Hadasi told Army radio.

Police searched the area and arrested an Arab suspect.

At least 233 Palestinians have been killed, mostly by Israeli troops, since a revolt against Israeli rule erupted in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip last December, but Mahzoul was the first Arab shot inside Israel's pre-1967 borders.

Four Israelis have also died in the violence.

In the Gaza Strip, hospital officials said a Palestinian who suffered from haemorrhaging of the kidneys after being beaten by troops four months ago died of his wounds.

### Blows

The Army confirmed Sabar Feris Al-Nimnim, 24, from Shati refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, died from severe blows, but said it could not confirm he was beaten by troops.

His death sparked fresh protests in the camp today. The Army used teargas to disperse youths who erected street barricades and stoned soldiers, eyewitnesses said.

In Arab East Jerusalem, captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war, two Israelis were injured when Palestinians stoned buses.

Hospital sources said a Palestinian in the West Bank village of Kabatyeh was shot and wounded in the thigh today.

Another Palestinian in Jenin camp was shot and wounded in the leg, Arab sources said. Hospital officials could not immediately be contacted and the Army said it was checking the report.

The Army lifted a curfew imposed on the West Bank town of Beit Sahour 10 days ago when residents returned their Israeli-issued identity cards in protest against a tax raid by authorities.

## Saleh re-elected President

SANAA, July 17, (Reuters): North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh was re-elected today for a third five-year term by an overwhelming vote in the country's new Parliament, the country's Saba newsagency said.

It said the 159-member Parliament, elected for the first time earlier this month, voted 152 for Saleh's re-election, with five deputies absent and two abstaining.

Crowds marched through the centre of the ancient capital holding aloft pictures of the President and supporting his return to office.

Earlier in the day, Saleh had formally tendered his resignation to clear the way for his re-election.

He told Parliament in a speech broadcast over state radio: "You will find me a soldier for the service of the country, people and revolution under all circumstances."

Under the constitution, Saleh's term of office expired on May 22, but was extended 90 days until the new Parliament could meet.

On Thursday, the Parliament voted 155 to four to amend the constitution to strengthen the office of the President, ending power sharing with the military command council.

## Greek police hunt mastermind of boat attack

ATHENS, July 17, (Reuters): Greek police are hunting a man they believe masterminded the attack on a tourist ship and are examining notes left behind by the guerrilla team, police sources said today.

The man, identified as Hetzab Jaballah, disappeared after renting a car on Monday morning, hours before two guerrilla team members died in an apparently accidental explosion.

Four hours after the blast, another squad launched a sub-machinegun and grenade attack on the sight-seeing ship with 471 passengers aboard.

Nine people died in the assault and 80 other people were wounded as the City of Poros approached Trocadero marina near Athens.

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### اقتصاد و صنایع

- حیدر آباد میں خونریزی
- قذافي کا قہرہ جبل سے قیدیوں کا
- قذافي کا قہرہ جبل سے قیدیوں کا
- حج پر بندہ آرائی کا ایرانی منصوبہ
- صدام کی ایران کو اس کی پیشکش
- پاکستان بھر میں شدید بارشیں
- روپے کا قانون کی وضاحت
- بے نظیر ادبی نامہ سید کے انٹرویو

### WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be above normal with moderate north-westerly wind.  
State of sea: slight to moderate  
High water: 2.00 am, 2.00 pm  
Low water: 8.00 am, 9.00 pm  
Sunrise: 5.00 am  
Sunset: 6.48 pm  
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 43°C (111°F)  
Fahla: 43°C (109°F)  
Fahla: 43°C (109°F)  
Fahla: 42°C (108°F)  
Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 27°C (81°F)  
Fahla: 27°C (81°F)  
Fahla: 27°C (81°F)  
Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 46°C (115°F)  
Fahla: 43°C (111°F)  
Fahla: 43°C (109°F)  
Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 23 per cent  
Fahla: 35 per cent  
Fahla: 40 per cent  
Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 33 per cent  
Fahla: 38 per cent



## INTERNATIONAL

## Three bombs explode in Barcelona

BARCELONA, July 17, (AP): Three home-made bombs exploded early today in three nearby towns of this northeastern port city of Barcelona, injuring one person and breaking windows and damaging parked cars, police said.

A Catalan independence group named Terra Lliure claimed responsibility for the blasts in a telephone call to the local Catalonia Radio.

A bomb placed in a window of the office of the electricity company Fecsa in Masnou town exploded causing slight cuts to Jorge Pujada and breaking windows and damaging six parked cars, police said.

The second home-made bomb also placed in a window of an unemployment office at Cornella town exploded at the same time, breaking windows and damaging about a dozen of parked cars in the area, police said.

The third bomb placed in a branch of the Banco de Europa in the town of Badalona also shattered nearby windows, according to police.

Police said a fourth bomb in the window of another unemployment office in Barcelona was deactivated by bomb experts.

The four home-made bombs contained several kilograms of an explosive called Ciorlita.

Terra Lliure, which stands for free land in the Catalan language, fights for independence of the four-province region of Catalonia of which Barcelona is the capital. The group has claimed responsibility for several attacks in Barcelona in the last two years.

## Key dies

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): David McKendree Key Sr., a career foreign service officer who served as ambassador to Burma in 1950-1952, died of cancer at age 88.

Key, who entered the foreign service in 1925, had assignments in Antwerp, Belgium, Berlin, London, Ottawa, Rome, Barcelona, Spain, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He died on Friday at his home in Lake Wales, Florida.

## Holidaymakers camp out at UK airports

LONDON, July 17, (Reuters): Thousands of holidaymakers camped out at British airports today, their annual rush to the sun clouded by long delays hitting cheap charter flights to resorts in Spain and the Mediterranean.

"We can see the floor now," said Geoff Smith, deputy manager of Luton Airport, near London, as overnight congestion eased and delayed flights began taking off.

Aviation officials in Britain and Europe blamed the sheer volume of holiday traffic, combined with restrictions by air controllers, for the delays. Some planes leaving British airports over the weekend took off more than 30 hours late.

The officials said a 24-hour strike planned by French air traffic controllers for Monday threatened to cause further chaos. Union officials in Paris said the dispute would close French airspace to domestic and

## Soviet police get tough with demonstrators

## Armenians warned of crackdown

MOSCOW, July 17, (Reuters): Three hundred Armenians meeting at a Moscow cemetery today were warned by a force of about three times as many police and security men that any attempt to demonstrate on the streets would face a tough crackdown.

The police were headed by General Nikolai Sharankov, who moved about the crowd to speak directly to known activists. "I warn you now that my men will arrest anyone attempting to take this meeting outside the cemetery," he told Armenian artist Karyun Nagapetyan, a prominent speaker at previous protest meetings on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue.

"I hold you responsible for ensuring that there is no disorderly behaviour," Sharankov added.

**Demands**  
On Thursday, police detained 16 people for several hours after 30 Armenians met outside the Lenin library in Moscow in support of demands for the transfer of the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh from Azerbaijan to Armenia.

Heated arguments broke out

among those attending today's meeting, but an orderly atmosphere prevailed.

An Armenian official at the gathering, who described himself as the permanent representative of the Armenian government to Moscow, confirmed that a two-week general strike in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, had been called off.

"People are going back to work and 90 percent of transport is working normally again. I think that in two or three days Yerevan will be completely back to normal," said the official, who declined to give his name.

**Critical**  
The effect of the return-to-work call will not be fully apparent until Monday, when businesses and shops are due to reopen after the weekend.

The decision to end the stoppage was taken at a rally of 300,000 people in Yerevan yesterday, apparently as a goodwill gesture ahead of tomorrow's session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet to review the Nagorno-Karabakh crisis. The session will be attended by

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who returned home yesterday after a visit to Poland.

In his absence, there have been no direct statements from the Kremlin on Nagorno-Karabakh, but Soviet press coverage has been highly critical of the Armenian protests.

At least 36 people have died since the unrest began in February over Nagorno-Karabakh, a mountainous enclave administered by Azerbaijan since 1923. Most of the dead were killed in riots in the Azeri city of Sumgait.

Demonstrations in Armenia for the transfer of the territory, where 75 per cent of the inhabitants are Armenian, have mostly been peaceful, but clashes broke out when troops moved in to end a blockade of Yerevan airport on July 4-5.

**Solution**  
One man died after being hit by a plastic bullet and 36 people were reported to have been seriously hurt in the violence, in which newspapers said demonstrators pelted troops with stones and bottles after they were forcibly evicted from the airport.

According to speakers at the Moscow cemetery, Armenian activists were prepared to agree to a compromise solution, under which Nagorno-Karabakh would join the Russian federation, the largest of the Soviet Union's 15 republics.

"As long as it is transferred away from Azerbaijan, we will be satisfied," said a woman speaker. "We are all citizens of the Soviet Union."

**Crackdown**  
On Friday, Communist Party leaders in Armenia urged a return to work, a crackdown on disturbances and a restoration of order to the republic.

A meeting of the Armenian Communist Party central committee, attended by party chief Suren Arutunyan, discussed "immediate measures" to normalise the situation, Soviet media reported.

Tass said those present accused officials of being too lenient and allowing developments to get out of hand. According to the government newspaper Izvestia, the leadership failed to heed warnings about possible trouble at the airport.

## India, Turkey improving ties

## Rajiv arrives in Ankara

ANKARA, July 17, (Reuters): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Ankara today for a four-day official visit, the first by an Indian premier in 28 years.

He is returning Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's 1986 visit to New Delhi, regarded as the start of improved relations which had shown no significant developments since the then Indian Prime Minister Pandit Nehru visited Ankara in 1960.

Rajiv will confer with Ozal on Monday before flying to Istanbul to meet President Kenan Evren.

In an interview in the English-language Turkish Daily News today, Rajiv said, "Democracy and secularism will certainly be one of the major pillars for a closer relationship between India and Turkey."

India, a Non-Aligned

Movement leader, has called for the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Cyprus and has been wary of Turkey's close ties with its leading neighbour Pakistan.

Relations hit a low point in 1965 when the United States sent planes to Pakistan via Turkey.

**Efforts**  
However, Ozal has made special efforts to improve ties with India which he regards as a regional power and a democratic country with secular principles similar to Turkey's.

A 1973 trade agreement remained relatively dormant until after Ozal's New Delhi visit.

India's exports to Turkey increased almost fivefold to \$29.2 million in 1986 from \$6.2 million in 1985.

Indian exports to Turkey until the end of November 1987 totalled \$39 million, against imports from Turkey worth \$69 million.

India exports machines, spare parts, spices, jute, coconuts and basic chemicals to Turkey and buys mainly iron and steel, crude oil, natural borates, chickpeas and lentils.

Rajiv will spend Tuesday sightseeing in the Aegean port of Izmir and will leave Turkey on Wednesday.

In Madrid, the Indian prime minister met three times with Premier Felipe Gonzalez for talks on bilateral issues and world affairs and attended a private dinner hosted by King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia.

At a joint news conference on Saturday, Gonzalez described his meetings with Rajiv as "intense and very satisfactory."

Their talks focused on increasing trade ties between the nations which have been almost non-existent.

## Husband claims baby left in airliner

SAN FRANCISCO, July 17, (AP): The husband of a woman accused of abandoning her newborn girl in the restroom of an airliner says he should be allowed to keep the baby, his lawyer said.

Louis Locasto, 26, "believes he is the father, and there is no reason to believe he is not," said attorney Vicki Yeley, who is representing Locasto in a custody fight with social workers.

Authorities said they would seek to have the baby kept out of the family's custody.

A 4-kilogramme baby was in stable condition and was expected to be released shortly from Mills Memorial Hospital in San Mateo, about 16 kilometres south of San Francisco, officials said. She will be placed in a foster home until a court rules, said Robert McMillan, deputy director of the county's child protective services office.

Mr. Locasto, who runs a limousine service, appeared shaken at a news conference Friday after visiting the baby with his wife, Christina Marie Locasto, 24, who pleaded innocent Thursday afternoon to felony charges of child endangerment and was released on \$50,000 bail. If convicted, she faces up to six years in prison.

Mandela, held in various jails since 1962, was imprisoned for life in 1964 for sabotage and seeking to overthrow the government by force.

Police sealed off the main road running past the prison where Mandela is serving a life sentence, telling motorists it was closed until after his birthday on Monday.

They briefly detained five joggers on a "freedom run," turned away some guests from a private party in a white Johannesburg suburb where Mandela's wife Winnie was to have been guest of honour, and stopped a township sports festival, eyewitnesses said.

Anti-apartheid church leader Allan Boesak told Reuters: "They (the authorities) don't want any kind of celebration to take place at all. They are so scared of someone in jail that not even a soccer match by 12-year-olds can take place."

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Black leader Nelson Mandela's daughter Zinzi tries on a pair of boxing gloves presented to her father by Mike Tyson, the heavyweight boxing champion, for his 70th birthday. (Reuters wirephoto).

## White police smash Mandela festivities

JOHANNESBURG, July 17, (Reuters): South African police have moved in force to prevent any celebrations marking the 70th birthday of jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela.

Police sealed off the main road running past the prison where Mandela is serving a life sentence, telling motorists it was closed until after his birthday on Monday.

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Mandela, held in various jails since 1962, was imprisoned for life in 1964 for sabotage and seeking to overthrow the government by force.

Police sealed off the main road running past the prison where Mandela is serving a life sentence, telling motorists it was closed until after his birthday on Monday.

They briefly detained five joggers on a "freedom run," turned away some guests from a private party in a white Johannesburg suburb where Mandela's wife Winnie was to have been guest of honour, and stopped a township sports festival, eyewitnesses said.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Soldiers hurt

TEGUCIGALPA, July 17, (Reuters): Attackers set off a bomb and shot and wounded four US soldiers as they left a discotheque in the northern Honduran city of San Pedro Sula early today, the US Embassy said.

The injured were taken to a local hospital and then by helicopter to the Palmerola air base, where 1,200 US troops are stationed.

A fifth soldier was wounded in an unrelated incident in the city, 120 miles (200 km) north of here.

## Mother Teresa

SYDNEY, July 17, (AP): Nobel peace laureate Mother Teresa has cancelled a planned visit to Australia and will instead fly to New York tomorrow to undergo eye surgery, the organisers of her tour said.

Mother Teresa, winner of the 1979 Nobel peace prize for her work among the poverty-stricken in the slums of Calcutta, India, was due to arrive in Sydney tomorrow for a five-day visit.

## Miss International

TOKYO, July 17, (AP): Catherine Alexandra Gude of Norway won the 1988 Miss International beauty contest today in Gifu, central Japan.

The 23-year-old Gude told a news conference afterward: "I have no words to express my feelings right now because my heart is filled with great pleasure."

Miss Gude, who works at a toy shop in Oslo, received 2 million yen (\$15,000) in prize money.

Miss America Dona Michele Richmond, a 21-year-old college student, was the runner-up.

## Earthquakes

TAIPEI, July 17, (AP): Two strong earthquakes were recorded today off the coast of Taiwan, but police said there were no reports of casualties or damage.

The Central Weather Bureau said the first quake struck at 3:53 am today and had a preliminary reading of 5.1 on the open-ended Richter Scale.

## Spain-fire

SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA, Spain, July 17, (Reuters): Firefighters and volunteers battled today to contain a blaze which has burned 6,000 hectares (15,000 acres) of pines, scrub and fruit trees on the Canary Island of La Palma.

Two water-dumping planes were used in an attempt to stop the fire reaching the island's pine-forested Caldera de Taburiente National Park.

## Explosion at

## Italian chemical plant

MASSA, Italy, July 17, (Reuters): A tank exploded and caught fire at an Italian chemical plant today and health authorities said about 20 people were admitted to hospital complaining of headaches, vomiting and sore throats.

Residents near the Farmaplast site at Massa, on the Tuscan coast, said they were woken by a huge explosion and saw a vast cloud of dark acid smoke spreading over the plant and neighbouring towns.

Hundreds of people fled their homes in panic and drove inland to escape.

Local firemen and Civil Protection Ministry officials in Rome said the fire was brought swiftly under control and put out within a few hours.

## Sparked

They said the substance involved — some 50,000 litres (11,000 gallons) of cyclohexanone used to make insecticides — was not toxic and there was no danger to the population.

But Massa health authorities were investigating whether the fire might have sparked a reaction in nearby tanks containing other types of chemicals.

## Saddam offers peace to Iran

(Continued from Page 1)

as well as through the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow entrance to the Gulf.

Iraq's only access to the Gulf along the Shatt Al Arab, and thence to the Indian Ocean through the Hormuz has been successfully blocked by Iran since the outbreak of fighting.

## Device

● In Abu Dhabi, Koji Omi, head of a visiting Japanese parliamentary delegation said: Iran has not rejected a proposed Japanese-financed device along the Gulf coast to ensure safe navigation in the troubled waterway.

Koji Omi, made the statements before leaving today for Oman as part of a Gulf tour for talks on Gulf security and oil prices.

## Jackson, Dukakis hope for a truce

ATLANTA, July 17, (Reuters): Michael Dukakis headed for Atlanta today hoping for a truce with black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson that would burn the Democratic presidential convention into a quiet, orderly coronation.

Democratic conventions can be bitter brawls, with harmonious setpieces usually the preserve of Republicans. But the 54-year-old Massachusetts governor and prospective Democratic presidential nominee hopes this convention will be as low key and "cool" as his own political style.

## Power

Jackson, meanwhile, says it is possible that he will enter his name into contention as Vice-President if political agreement with the Dukakis camp cannot be reached.

Top Dukakis and Jackson aides met on Saturday to find a mutually acceptable solution to Jackson's demand for a powerful role in the presidential campaign and for vastly greater representation on the Democratic National Committee (DNC), the party's policy-making body.

Reports circulated that Jackson wanted his convention manager Ron Brown to share power with DNC chairman Paul Kirk, but Jackson insisted this was not under discussion. Dukakis, in an interview with

CBS News, said he wanted Jackson working with him and called him a party leader.

Hinting at a Jackson role in a Dukakis presidency, the governor added: "I hope and expect Reverend Jackson will be active not only in the campaign but afterwards. What that is remains to be seen."

The Jackson-Dukakis negotiations dominated discussions as thousands of delegates and their families poured into Atlanta for a taste of southern hospitality, sweltering temperatures and a variety of political sideshows.

Lesbians and homosexuals planned demonstrations at about the same time the Ku Klux Klan promised a march for "white majority rights."

But few demonstrations that will be staged at this convention are likely to match Jackson's entrance into Atlanta on Saturday.

## Buses

He arrived at the head of a string of buses and cars in a converted bus dubbed "the Jackson action campaign express" and addressed thousands of supporters who waited under a merciless sun.

Jackson's message was both defiant and conciliatory. Most of all he reminded his black listeners in a city once as segregated as Johannesburg how far they had come.



Jesse Jackson addresses a crowd in Chattanooga's Miller Park during a rally. (Reuters wirephoto)



## South Sudan to be exempt from Islamic sharia

KHARTOUM, July 17. (Reuters) Sudan says it plans to exempt its animist and Christian South from Islamic sharia, punishments (hodoud) that include the stoning of adulterers and the amputation of thieves' hands.

The introduction of sharia law in 1983 by former President Jaafar Nimeiri fuelled a war in the South where guerrillas of the Sudan People's Liberation Army, SPLA, are fighting to end what they see as domination by the North.

The war-weary South will be exempt from the tough laws although non-Muslims in the North will be subject to them.

A draft penal code is due to be discussed by the cabinet on Wednesday. When approved, it will go to parliament, where Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's coalition government enjoys an overwhelming majority.

Disclosing details of the new code at a news conference last night, Justice Minister Hassan Al-Tourabi said the proposed laws reflected a political commitment and were partly designed to fill what he called a political vacuum.

"These laws will not implement hudud punishments on Muslims or non-Muslims in the South," said Al-Tourabi who is also attorney-general and deputy prime minister.

The new code, when approved by parliament, would replace the one introduced in 1983 by Nimeiri, the provisions of which have been relaxed since his overthrow in 1985.

The war in the South, the disruption of agriculture it caused and drought have forced some three million Southerners—half the estimated population of the South—to flee to Northern Sudan and Ethiopia.

Tourabi said non-Muslims in Northern Sudan, where Muslims are in the majority, would be subject to hudud, adding that punishments could not be applied on the basis of the religion of every individual offender.

Offenders in the South would be punished by jail or fines, he said instead of hudud.

Hudud includes the amputation of hands for theft, the flogging of drinkers, the stoning of adulterers and death for heretics.



Villagers stranded by monsoon floods in Bangladesh collect rotten jute plants and water hyacinth and try to make a floating platform for temporary refuge. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bangladesh flood victims face hunger

KUNDA, Bangladesh, July 17. (Reuters) Tens of thousands of people in Bangladesh face hunger and disease after being made homeless by floods that have killed at least 150.

Officials monitoring the floods told reporters today at least 150 people had drowned or died from snakebite or disease across the country. Unofficial sources put the death toll at nearly 250.

In Kunda, 130 km east of the capital of Dhaka, one doctor and 12 uneducated assistants provide health care for 7,000 people stranded in half-submerged shanties.

### Starvation

"This is almost an impossible task," said the doctor, who works for the Save the Children Fund.

At least 80 per cent of rice and jute crops in Kunda and neighbouring villages have been swept away by floods.

"Probably we shall have no way but to starve once the flooding is over," said farmer Abdus Sobhan, father of five children.

People and snakes, desperately trying to escape death,

often live together in the same flooded house, said Shah Alam, a Save the Children Fund employee.

Villagers and local officials say relief supplies are inadequate. Each flood victim receives only eight ounces (250 grams) of rice or wheat, some salt or molasses and a few water purifying tablets as two or three days' ration.

The floods, triggered by heavy monsoon rains, have washed away many small bridges disrupting road links between the flood-stricken areas and Dhaka.

The head of the roads and highways division for Brahmanbaria district, Mohiuddin Ahmed, said more than \$11 million would be needed to repair damaged roads in his area alone.

Meanwhile, five days of torrential rains in the Pakistani provinces of Punjab and North-west Frontier and Azad Kashmir state have caused havoc, killing and injuring several people and damaging thousands of kilometres of fertile farm lands.

Earlier last week 10 people were killed when a freak rainstorm lashed the district of Multan in the Punjab.

## China urged to allow mixed dancing

BEIJING, July 17. (UPI) A leading state-run newspaper urged authorities today to repeal a policy that forbids foreigners and Chinese from dancing together in Beijing dance halls.

In what was viewed as a daring lead article, the official China Youth News criticised rules posted by Beijing authorities that ban "mixed" dancing in the city's hotels, and published unusually outspoken comments from three tourism officials.

While officials insist no official restrictions exist on social contacts between foreigners and Chinese, many people still harbour a traditional, deep-seated suspicion of outsiders—despite Beijing's 10-year-old "open door" policy.

Almost all Chinese-run dance halls in Beijing carry a notice in Chinese forbidding entry to foreigners—although those of Chinese descent are routinely allowed in. Foreigners who attempt to purchase tickets are turned away and told the ban is on orders from the Culture Ministry.

"Apparently the reason for not allowing Chinese and foreign mixed dancing is for fear of 'problems'. Isn't that a case of not eating for fear of choking?" the newspaper quoted an unnamed official of the Beijing tourist administration as saying.

The official, speaking at a recent national tourism meeting, called on the state tourism administration to show "a little more boldness" when making policies.

The rules work both ways. Local Chinese are banned from discos in Beijing's plush, joint-venture hotels—even if accompanied by a foreign host.

(\$21) a month. I spend almost 200 rupees (\$14) a month on medicine," he said.

As he spoke in a Bhopal street on Saturday, a crowd of claimants gathered around, all speaking in favour of quick out-of-court settlement.

Gupta fled his small house near the Union Carbide plant when the gas leaked and formed clouds of yellow vapour.

The Indian government filed criminal charges against Union Carbide, Anderson and the company's Indian officials in December last year after negotiations for an out-of-court settlement failed.

## Bhopal gas disaster victims want out-of-court settlements

BHOPAL, India, July 17. (Reuters) Victims of the Bhopal gas disaster, despairing of legal redress, 3-1/2 years after the world's worst industrial accident, want quick out-of-court settlements of their claims.

"I will at least be able to live the rest of my life with dignity," said Nathu Ram Gupta, 40, who lost a son and daughter to poisonous gas from the Bhopal Union Carbide pesticide plant in December 1984.

Nearly 3,000 people were killed and 200,000 injured in the gas leak and the Indian government has filed a \$3.5-billion compensation suit against the US-based company on behalf of the

victims.

The government is also pressing criminal charges against nine people including Warren Anderson, former chairman of Union Carbide. But few people in Bhopal worry about the criminal case.

"You can see what the government is doing. They talk about giving us money but all we do is fill up papers and forms," said Gupta who suffers from respiratory problems and constant pain in the chest.

"I was a machine man in a printing press but I lost my job because my vision is now affected. I do odd jobs and work as a watchman making 300 rupees

## Sri Lankan elephant to be stuffed

COLOMBO, July 17. (Reuters) Sri Lanka's best loved holy elephant, who died on Saturday of old age, will be stuffed and preserved as a national treasure, temple officials said today.

Raja, who was 61 years old, for 50 years carried a gold casket containing relics of the Buddha in an annual religious pageant in the central hills of Kandy.

Hundreds of men and women, most of them elderly, wept as they filed past Raja's body on Saturday at the residence of the Diyawadana Nilame, the lay custodian of the Temple of the Tooth.

"None could contain their sorrow. Raja was part of the family," said one resident.

Newspapers said Kandy, a former capital, had plunged into grief as news of the death spread. White flags of mourning waved from the rooftops.

The order to preserve Raja was given by President Junius Jayewardene, an animal lover who sent a veterinarian team whenever Raja fell ill.

The elephant, who was given to the Dalada Maligawa Temple in 1927 after being captured in eastern province jungles, was declared a national treasure some years ago by the state.

Residents said crowds continued to gather outside the Diyawadana Nilame's residence this morning even after Raja's skull and skin had been brought to Colombo and his other remains buried.

## Khomeini's hold on power still solid

TEHRAN, July 17. (Reuters) Ayatollah Khomeini's hold on power in Iran is apparently still solid despite the high political and psychological cost of the draining war with Iraq, diplomats and Iranians say.

But the nine-year-old Islamic government could be torn apart in a fight for power when Khomeini, 65, dies, they said.

Recent military setbacks united the leaders, bolstering the role of Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the speaker of parliament appointed acting commander-in-chief by Khomeini last month.

### Defeat

Rafsanjani, 54, now the country's top political leader, has begun to break Iran's self-sought diplomatic isolation despite charges of "defeatism" from Islamic hardliners.

The slow opening is expected to continue, diplomats and government officials said, although the July 3 US downing of an Iran Air jetliner played into the hands of fundamentalists.

Iranian officials angrily deny any plans for rapprochement with the United States, which Tehran brands "the great satan."

On the wall of the former US embassy—now a base for the revolutionary guards, self-appointed guardians of Khomeini's revolution—a slogan in English says "We will make America face a severe defeat."

Angry crowds, their voices driven to a fever pitch by a slogan chanter, shouted anti-American slogans before Western reporters invited last week after the Airbus attack.

"We are not all like that, you know," a junior government official said privately this week. "Not all Iranians hate America. Many are unhappy about this image we have outside."

Foreign residents say more and more Iranians now voice disenchantment with the government and with the Gulf war—now in its eighth year—which diplomats say has cost 500,000 lives.

"But they look over their shoulders when they do this," one European businessman said. "This regime is tough on dissent."

### Reminder

In Tehran, sandbagged banks, bomb shelters and windows taped against the impact of bombs provide poignant reminders of what is officially known as "the imposed war."

Women wear ankle-long chadors in the searing sun, but often blue jeans and trendy gym shoes peek out below their black coats prescribed by Islamic propriety laws.

Many Iranians complain over the strict Islamic regulations. When public morale plummeted during six weeks of Iraqi bombardments of Tehran from late February, a certain easing was noted, they said.

## 165 rockets struck Afghan cities since May 15

# Najib warns of martial law

ISLAMABAD, July 17. (AP) Afghan President Najib said he is prepared to impose martial law to counter guerrilla attacks on the capital of Kabul and other cities.

Najib, speaking on the state-run Radio Kabul, said 165 rockets have struck Afghan cities since May 15 when the Soviets began withdrawing their troops under a UN-mediated agreement.

The Afghan news media reported 20 people were killed and 34 wounded on Friday when an unspecified number of rockets hit the capital, which has been the main target of the rocket attacks.

### Soviet troops

"We will revenge these hostile actions," Najib said in the broadcast monitored in Islamabad. "Our security forces are in a position to hit the attackers," he said.

He said his government was considering martial law as one way to counter the guerrilla attacks, but he did not specify what measures might be imposed. Afghanistan has been ruled by a series of military-controlled governments since a

coup by leftist officers in April 1978.

The Soviet Union sent troops into Afghanistan in December 1979 to help the Marxist government battle anti-communist rebels. Soviet officials have said that there were 103,000 troops in Afghanistan as of May 15.

Under the UN accord signed on April 14 in Geneva by Afghanistan and Pakistan with the Soviet Union and America as guarantors, all Soviet forces are to be out of the country by Feb 15. UN officials said the Soviets have withdrawn 35,000 troops since May.

Radio Kabul also reported that Brig. Gen. Saifullah, the Kabul police commander, told a news conference on Saturday that 76 people were killed and 91 wounded by 124 rockets that hit the capital during the past month.

A major guerrilla commander, Abdul Haq, claimed in a telephone interview that Soviet and Afghan troops had fired rockets into residential districts in Kabul to discredit the rebels. Haq, contacted at Pakistan's frontier city of Peshawar, said, "we fire five

rockets, and suddenly we see 20 hit."

No group has asserted responsibility for Friday's rocket attack on Kabul.

Haq said government forces were firing at civilian areas to undermine support for the rebels.

### Warning

Najibullah blamed neighbouring Pakistan for a rebel rocket attack on Kabul that killed 20 people on Friday.

He said his Soviet-backed government would seriously deal with such acts.

He accused Pakistan of continuing to allow rebel arms supplies into Afghanistan in violation of UN-mediated accords signed in Geneva on April 14.

"We are going to take a serious decision against these actions," he said in a speech broadcast by the official Kabul Radio, monitored in Islamabad.

Najibullah did not elaborate, beyond saying: "I can order fire against fire, but we want peace."

The radio said the Kabul government on Saturday also lodged two more complaints with UN officials about Pakis-

tani violations of the Geneva accords, under which Moscow began pulling out its more than 100,000 troops in Afghanistan on May 15.

### Weapons

Najibullah complained rebel attacks on Kabul had increased with weapons brought from Pakistan and said 131 people were killed and 167 wounded since May, most of them civilians.

He said rumours had been spread blaming Friday's attack on Soviet troops. "I must say that this is total lie."

Tass said on Friday people seeking to sabotage the Geneva settlement were spreading the rumours in an attempt to discredit the Soviet forces.

Pakistan and Afghanistan have pledged in the Geneva accords not to interfere in each other's internal affairs, but both sides accuse each other of violations.

The Washington Post, quoting Reagan administration sources, reported on Saturday that Pakistan had halted the flow of almost all US-made weapons to the rebels with the approval of the United States.

## NPA vows not to surrender

# Filipino rebels offer truce

MANILA, July 17. (AP) Communists rebels said today they were willing to open new rounds of peace talks with President Corason Aquino but warned they would not surrender to the government.

The communist New People's Army, armed wing of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines, made the statement in a tape-recorded message sent to news agencies.

But Gregorio Rosal, alias Ka (comrade) Roger, spokesman for the rebels operating in the southern part of the main Luzon island, said the offer must not be taken by the government as an act of surrender.

The 25,000 strong communist rebels have been waging a 19-year-old guerrilla war to establish a marxist state.

Rosal represented the National Democratic Front, the 12-member communist umbrella organization that includes the Communist Party and the rebel Army, during a 60-day ceasefire in late 1986.

The truce collapsed in February 1987 with both sides accusing the other of launching attacks during the ceasefire.

"We are ready to hold talks for the pursuit of long-lasting peace but never for surrender," Rosal said. "The present government is prone to saddling (us) with terms unacceptable for free-wheeling talks with the military for one, acting as saboteurs to any peaceful effort."

He did not elaborate on terms the rebels were seeking.

Meanwhile, five communist

rebels and a provincial leftist leader were killed and eight soldiers were wounded in a separate insurgency-related clashes in the Philippines in the past four days, the state-run Philippine news agency reported today.

PNA said a government troops killed the guerrillas on the outskirts of Magalona town in Negros Island, some 480 kilometres southeast of Manila, in a running gun battle Saturday.

It said the soldiers were still in pursuit of the remnants of the 50-man rebel band.

In Bacolod, the main city on Negros, some 6,000 people gathered on Friday in front of a seminary to protest alleged communist infiltration of the Roman Catholic Church.

## Gurkha rebellion may end soon

DARJEELING, India, July 17. (Reuters) The Chief Minister of India's West Bengal state said today he was ready to sign an agreement giving autonomy to the Gurkha-majority areas of his state, to end a two-year rebellion in the Darjeeling hills.

Marxist Chief Minister Jyoti Basu said he would travel to New Delhi for a planned meeting on July 25 with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Gurkha rebel leader Subhas Ghising.

But as he spoke, rival Gurkha factions fought pitched battles killing three people and injuring many others, and the accord still looked fragile.

Ghising, saying he had not received any invitation from

New Delhi, said he would go there only after Rajiv returned from his current foreign tour next Wednesday.

Ghising, who heads the Gurkha National Liberation Front (GNLF), agreed after months of talks to give up his struggle for a separate state and to place the Gurkha areas under an elected autonomous hill council.

But his climbdown has not been accepted by all Gurkha factions, and a police spokesman in Darjeeling said rival gangs of militants armed with guns and bombs were roaming the nearby town of Kalimpong looking for a showdown.

Ghising loyalist C.K. Pradhan

proclaimed in Kalimpong that his hardline opponent Chatter Subba must surrender by Monday or be hunted down and killed.

In another district, militants trying to extort funds from businessmen in the town of Dooars were confronted by police who killed three of them in the resulting exchange of fire.

Ghising said: "This is the handiwork of misguided elements. Police should take action against them."

But a police source said no action was being contemplated until the agreement was signed because: "Ghising might change his mind tomorrow and say we are torturing his men."

## Pakistan seeks new avenues of employment

ISLAMABAD, July 17. (KUNA) Pakistan government will soon send a number of teams to different parts of the world, especially the Middle East, to find new avenues of employment for skilled and unskilled Pakistani labour, according to federal Minister for Labour, Manpower and Overseas Employment Ahmed Nawaz Bugti.

The teams would undertake survey of employment opportunities in public as well as private sectors in the countries to be visited, he said in an interview published today.

Bugti said these teams would also determine the extent of competition faced by Pakistani labour from other nations, particularly India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Philippines.

One of the reasons for despatching such manpower teams was to boost Pakistan's foreign exchange earnings through worker's remittances, he said, adding that at one time these remittances had shot up to \$2.85 billion per annum. This year's earnings had come down to \$2 billion, he said.

The minister noted that the flow of Pakistani manpower had not stopped but those returning were more than those who were going. It was obviously due to the fact that Middle Eastern oil boom period was over, he said.

However, Bugti hoped that with the ending of the Iran-Iraq war massive rehabilitation and reconstruction would start and the demand for Pakistani manpower would again shoot up.

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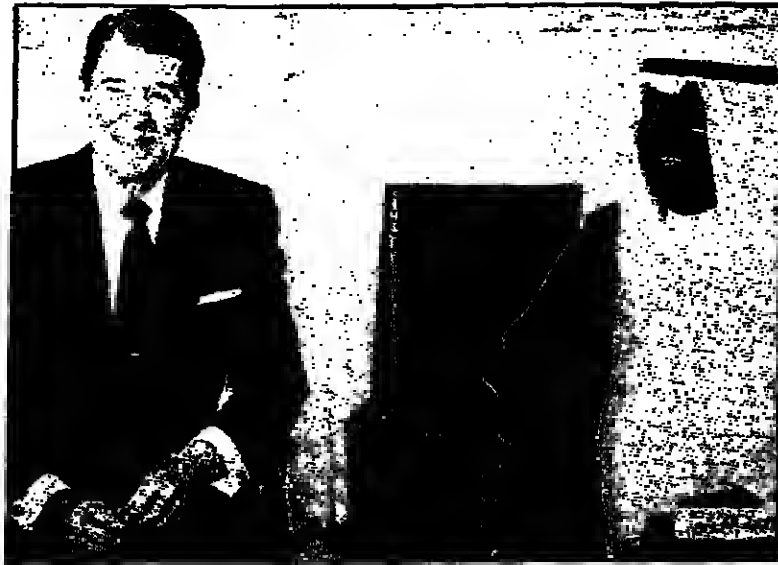
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Sheikh Saad flew to the US aboard Al Jaberiyah emphasizing Kuwait's determination not to bow to terrorism.



During his visit the Crown Prince met President Reagan and addressed newsmen (right) at the National Press Club of Washington. (KUNA pictures)



## ROYAL COURT

### Amiri audience

HH the Amir yesterday received the ambassadors of Austria and Senegal to Kuwait on the occasion of end of their tenure here.

### Crown Prince cables

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq on the occasion of his country's National Day. HH sent a similar congratulatory cable to Izzat Ibrahim, the deputy chairman of Iraq's revolution Command Council.

## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

### Iran isolated at UN

A KUWAITI newspaper yesterday expressed hope that the current debate in the UN Security Council on the Iranian Airbus tragedy would tempt the Iranian regime to reconsider their policies and resort to peace instead of war. Al Rai Al Aam in an editorial noted that "despite Iran's continuous refusal to accept Security Council's resolutions on the Gulf war, its resort to the council for the Airbus tragedy signals that there is a fault in the Iranian concept towards the international organisation which should be corrected."

However, the newspaper while affirming Iran's isolation in the UN Security Council, said that "it is natural that Iran felt very isolated during the debate for its insistence to continue the war and to threaten the security and stability of one of the most vital areas in the world. But if the Security Council and International Civil Aviation Organisation failed to take decisive actions towards the airline tragedy, then it would show how much the Iranians are isolated in the international community, especially if the US 'justifications' for shooting down the aircraft were accepted," Al Rai Al Aam concluded.

### Iraqi leadership praised

A LOCAL daily yesterday, while commenting on Iraq's celebrations marking the twentieth anniversary of its revolution, said that Baghdad also celebrates the recent victories and the liberation of their lands from Iranian occupation.

Al Anba, in an editorial, said that the most difficult balance which Iraq managed to achieve militarily is depending on itself, and at the same time the continuing construction and development of the country. Such accomplishments were achieved by the wisdom of the Iraqi leadership headed by President Saddam Hussein, and the national awareness of the Iraqi citizen, the paper went on. The newspaper noted that despite the atrocious war, Iraq's stubborn stances, and some Arabs' negative positions, Iraq managed to remain steadfast and achieve victories.

### Appeal to municipality

## Don't close down shops in Hassawi area

CITIZENS and shop owners in Al Hassawi appealed to Kuwait's Municipality Affairs Committee and other state authorities to reconsider the decision to close shops in the area. In an interview with a local daily the mukhtar of Al Hassawi and Jleeb Al Shuyookh areas, Fahed Bu Tamer, confirmed that he had sent several letters and complaints to the authorities to rescind the said decision as it served only one per cent and hurt ninety-nine per cent of the citizens.

**Favour** He commented that the decision seemed to favour owners of commercial complexes who were presently facing a slump in their activities. Meanwhile, the daily conducted an opinion poll of shop owners in the area to ascertain their views.

Shabib Al Shidak said the decision which was taken 10 years ago, had not taken into consideration the interests of shop owners and was no longer valid in the present circumstances. He called on the municipality and other authorities to visit the area to familiarise themselves with the problem.

**Interests** He added that the issue should be studied from all aspects and the interests of all parties should be considered. He disclosed that these rented shops mostly belonged to widows and orphans whose main source of income was the rents from these shops. Saeed Mubarak and Dhaidan Abu Adil both echoed the sentiments of Shabib Al Shidak and added that if the municipality was in reality seeking the welfare of the citizens, this decision should be reconsidered.

### Sincere Gratitude

I express my sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the management and staff of the Arab Times and Dar Al Sayassah Establishment, who comforted and stood by me in my bereavement following the sad demise of my husband, A.G. OOMEN

Mary Oomen

May his soul rest in peace

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### Officials express satisfaction

## Sheikh Saad's visit strengthens US-Kuwait ties

WASHINGTON, July 17, (KUNA): Top American and Kuwaiti officials have expressed satisfaction with the just-concluded six-day visit to Washington by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah.

"A new chapter in the ever-evolving Kuwait-American relationship has been opened," one senior State Department official, who took part in all the Crown Prince's high-level discussions here, said.

**Expressed** And Kuwaiti officials accompanying Sheikh Saad on his first-ever visit to the US expressed equal satisfaction, saying the visit has allowed Kuwait to outline its clear-cut and consistent policies to the Reagan administration, to members of the US Congress, and to the American public through the influential US media on all the important issues to the Gulf and Arab countries.

There is a consensus here that Sheikh Saad's visit has greatly enhanced the Kuwait-American relationship on a number of levels while still making clear to the Americans Kuwait's traditional position of "positive

neutrality and non-alignment." It was noted here that the Crown Prince, had spent much time talking to the American media, which highlighted the visit all through this last week.

In particular, Sheikh Saad's major policy statement before the National Press Club of Washington on Wednesday was given wide coverage across the United States.

In addition to newspapers which carried his speech, television stations and more than 300 radio stations carried it on live.

Sheikh Saad, who is the first Arab official to visit Washington since the last Arab summit conference in Algiers, seized every opportunity to push for a solution of the Iran-Iraq war and also to outline the need for a recognition of Palestinian rights in any peaceful settlement.

Both American and Kuwaiti officials said President Reagan's recognition of the "legitimate political aspirations" of the Palestinian people was highly significant that showed deep respect for Sheikh Saad's status and role in the Arab world. That recognition was voiced by Reagan in the farewell statement

following Sheikh Saad's talks at the White House on Tuesday.

Although Secretary of State George Shultz had spoken of the "legitimate political aspirations" of the Palestinians on his last visit to the region, the President of the United States had never acknowledged these rights publicly from the White House.

The Crown Prince also capitalised on his visit to personally and publicly thank the Reagan administration for the US role in ensuring the freedom of navigation in the international waters of the Arabian Gulf and to stress the fact that the multinational operation has been successful.

### Multilateral

The visit has been widely interpreted in both the American and Arab media as part of Kuwait's consistent multilateral attempt to contact all the members of the Security Council and to seek a solution of the eight-year-old Iran-Iraq conflict through United Nations auspices.

In his meetings with President Reagan, at the State Department, the Pentagon, and the US Congress, Sheikh Saad prodded the Reagan administration to

work more actively and to exploit the current situation in the Arabian Gulf region to find a diplomatic solution of the Iran-Iraq war.

American officials said that as a direct result of Sheikh Saad's talks here, the United States is now expected to step up its efforts to find a solution to the conflict at the United Nations. "Sheikh Saad has reinvigorated the attempts by the US to find a comprehensive settlement of the war," one senior State Department official said.

### Focused

But much of Sheikh Saad's talks equally focussed on the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Crown Prince seized every opportunity, in his private and public statements and contacts, to highlight the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination and a homeland.

Equally significant, Sheikh Saad succeeded in establishing personal and high-level contacts with members of the US Congress, outlining frankly the Kuwaiti and Arab points of view on a number of issues — the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iran-Iraq war, and Kuwait's consistent arms purchase policies.

After his meetings with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, members said Sheikh Saad was able to make a "very clear and comprehensive explanation," of Kuwait's positions on a wide variety of issues.

One congressman who attended the meetings said: "HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister showed a very deep understanding of how the American system of government works and ticks."

One important outcome of the talks here — both with the administration and on Capitol Hill — was that Sheikh Saad was able to explain clearly Kuwait's reasoning for its request for the purchase of F-16 fighter planes and the accompanying arms package. He stressed the same points in his extensive meetings with the American press.

HH the Crown Prince made it clear to all those concerned that the proposed \$1.9 billion arms sale to Kuwait must be an "integrated package" that should include all its various components.

As a result of Sheikh Saad's talks at the White House,

President Reagan pledged to personally "pitch-in" in an attempt to convince Congress to approve the sale to Kuwait.

Administration officials have expressed optimism that the whole package will now pass through Congress as a result of Sheikh Saad's extensive talks over the last six days and the President's personal involvement.

Sheikh Saad, who was accompanied on his visit by three cabinet ministers, also reaffirmed Kuwait's clear-cut position on the question of terrorism.

### Firm

At every meeting, and especially those with the American media, HH the Crown Prince publicly stated the well-known Kuwaiti position that there can never be any deals or any compromises with terrorists. "Kuwait will stand firm," he told the National Press Club of Washington on Wednesday.

The symbolic presence of Al Jaberiyah on this trip and the crew of the once hijacked Kuwait Airways plane, led by Captain Subhi Al Youssef, was highlighted by the American media and drove the message home to many Americans.

## Muslims pouring into Saudi Arabia for haj

(Continued from Page 1)

"Saudi Arabia will deal with any spoilers who commit or attempt to commit a crime that would disrupt security, like carrying banners, pictures, explosives, weapons, rioting, sabotage or using loudspeakers," a cabinet statement said.

Saudi Arabia said yesterday that all entry points will be closed from Monday.

### Change

Prince Nayef told a news conference in Makkah that that would leave no time for Iranian authorities to change their minds and allow Iranian pilgrims to perform the haj.

Most Muslim nations in Asia, Africa, and Europe have accepted quotas set by the Saudi authorities limiting pilgrims to one in every 1,000 Muslims in a country's population.

An official statement yesterday said 685,487 pilgrims had

already arrived in the kingdom, compared to some 900,000 who came from outside Saudi Arabia last year.

The Saudi government has also called upon residents who have already performed the haj to forego the pilgrimage this year, in an additional bid to cut numbers.

Almost one million Saudi and non-Saudi residents of the kingdom took part last year boosting pilgrim numbers to almost two million.

Performing the pilgrimage is one of five religious obligations for all Muslims.

The pilgrims leave most of their possessions behind and dress in simple white cotton robes.

They chant only one slogan. "Lahbaik, Allahumma, labbaik... la shareekalak" (I have answered your call, oh God, here I am. There is no God but You...)

Pilgrims must carry out a series of rituals in the holiest city of Makkah before their 11 km (seven mile) trek to the slopes of Mount Arafat, where a ceremony on Saturday marks the emotional climax of the pilgrimage. The Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) made his last sermon on Mount Arafat.

Bare-headed pilgrims, named "Doyouf Al Rahman" (Guests of God), congregating in desert heat that usually reaches 45 degrees Centigrade (113 °F), must first make seven circuits of the Kaaba, a building in a courtyard of the Grand Mosque in Makkah.

Pilgrims have to kiss or at least wave to a sacred black stone, set into one of the four corners of the Kaaba.

They then walk about three kms (two miles) between two hills near the Kaaba known as Safa and Marwa — the distance

covered by Abraham's wife Hagera as she fetched water for her son Ismail, according to the Quran.

On Saturday, all pilgrims assemble at the slopes of Mount Arafat, spread over five sq kms (two sq miles), praying for God's forgiveness until sunset.

Pilgrims then head into the nearby town of Muzdallifa to collect 49 stones, used to pelt three monuments representing the devil in the town of Mina, near Makkah.

They pelt the devil with seven stones, sacrifice sheep, cows and goats by the light of the rising sun on the first day of the feast of sacrifice (Eid Al Adha) on Sunday. They then proceed to Makkah for a final circuit of the Kaaba and return to Mina.

Over the next two days they continue to pray and pelt the devil with the remaining 42 stones.

### Probe into Iranian Airbus downing

## Investigators take a look at radar signals

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): Defence Department investigators will be taking a close look at whether the USS Vincennes detected radar signals emanating from the Iran A300 Airbus that it mistook for an F-14 fighter and shot it down, military and industry sources say.

Publicly available evidence suggests that the Airbus was not using its weather or navigational radar, which send out different signals than radar aboard an F-14 and could easily have been distinguished by equipment aboard the Vincennes, according to Pentagon officials.

"If an F-14 is using its target acquisition radar, it is a very specific signal, and one which you can easily identify," Pentagon spokesman Dan Howard told reporters on July 5, two days after the incident.

### Illumination

Pentagon and industry sources said it would be common practice for either an attacking F-14 or an Airbus making the 175-mile (282-kilometre) run in clear weather between Bandar Abbas, Iran, and Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, not to turn on its radar.

"The Iranians know... when they paint something with their target illumination radar, that we can detect it and we can identify the target very specifically from that information," Howard said.

The absence of a radar signal, therefore, would tell the Vincennes' officers nothing about the approaching plane, but any radar signal originating from the Iranian aircraft should have identified it as civilian or military.

A computer analysis of elec-

tronic data from the Vincennes has been conducted in the United States and flown to Bahrain, in the Gulf, where a six-member team headed by Rear Adm. William M. Fogarty is investigating the incident.

Pentagon officials have declined to discuss information uncovered by Fogarty, including whether the Iranian aircraft was sending out radar signals.

A device known as a transponder aboard the Airbus was sending one set of identification signals common to civilian and military aircraft, as well as a signal unique to warplanes, Howard said.

And the chairman of the joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. William J. Crowe Jr. said it was impossible for a ship to use its own radar to precisely identify an approaching aircraft, a view shared by Navy and industry officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The issue of whether the Airbus was emitting radar signals is quite different, however, and the answer is not likely to be known publicly until the results of the Fogarty investigation are released, something that Navy officials now say they do not expect until early or mid-August.

### Different

The Vincennes, and many other US warships in the Gulf, are equipped with a device known as a SLQ-32, which can distinguish the "signatures" of radars. Radars that are used by commercial airliners are quite different from those used by military aircraft.

The exact differences are classified, industry and Navy sources said, but generally military radars are far more powerful,

operate on different frequencies, radiate farther, and "ping" objects more frequently with radio waves than do commercial radars, they said.

The US-manufactured SLQ-32 can be programmed to distinguish the "signatures" of various types of radar. And one Navy source said even if the device were not programmed to make that distinction, a skilled operator could tell the difference anyway.

Howard, in briefing reporters, said he did not know "what the SLQ-32 was saying" aboard the Vincennes. "All that stuff is on the tape and will presumably be examined by the inquiry."

Meanwhile, Iran said today it has asked the European Airbus consortium to help in the search for the "black box" flight recorder.

## Course in dress design

KUWAIT Zakat House held a graduation ceremony for women who recently completed a course in dress design and tailoring organised by the Authority of Applied Education and Training as a favour to Zakat House.

The ceremony was attended by the deputy director of the authority, Humoud Al Mudaf and the deputy director of Zakat House, Abdul-Qader Al Ajeel.

In a speech during the ceremony, Al Ajeel stressed that Islam encouraged Muslims to work and to be productive and added that Zakat House had decided to make a move to equip needy Kuwaiti families with skills to enable them to become more self-sufficient and obtain their incomes through means other than assistance from charitable establishments.

ders from an Iranian jetliner that was shot down by an American warship.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said Iran's Civil Aviation Organisation had made the request for help in finding the black box from the Airbus A-300.

A spokesman for the Airbus Industrie consortium in the southwestern French city of Toulouse, Robert Alizart, confirmed that Iran Air sent a telex on Wednesday "asking where they could buy or rent equipment that would help them find the black box."

In Vienna, Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock said today that the US decision to compensate relatives of the Airbus victims has helped soften Iranian anger over the incident.

## OBITUARY



With deep sorrow we regret to announce the sad demise of our beloved MR. JAGMOHAN GHAI, who left for his heavenly abode on 17-7-88.

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## Sugar-coating the real issue

By Fathima Ahmed

THE love story is an integral part of Indian films. Nearly all Hindi films harp on love. But the content of romantic cinema circles around the formula of "rich boy overcomes obstacles to win his fair lady" theme. What rekindled interest in celluloid romance is a movie called *Hamara Khandan* (the title gives the impression of a family social) a product of the Tahir Hussain film factory.

In *Hamara Khandan*, as in other forgettable romances, the filmmakers stick to a sugar-coated formula with a social message. There were a few exceptional romantic films like *Mughal-e-Azam*, *Bobby*, *Ek Duj Ke Liye*, *Love Story* and the more recent *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak*. The makers of these films, sold dreams draped in passion, fantasy and glamour. Except *Bobby* and *Love Story*, the others ended in tragedy.

The greatest tragic love story of all time in Indian cinema was undoubtedly *Mughal-e-Azam*. K. Asif's block buster about the love of a prince, (Jahangir) played by Dilip Kumar, for an ordinary girl (Madhubala). Madhubala was certainly no ordinary woman. A stunning beauty, she was one of the most alluring seductive women of the Indian cinema. The film, which took 15 years to make was spruced up by lavish sets,



Love suffers: Rita (Farha) in *Hamara Khandan*

costumes and the presence of such actors as Dilip and Prithviraj Kapoor. A classic, it is an ageless romance, poetic, lyrical and beautiful.

Romance was also appealing in *Ek Duj Ke Liye*. Love was pure, untainted, innocent and breezy, and touching, in the story of a bumbling Madras (played by Kamalabasan) and a bubbly Punjabi girl (Rati Agnihotri). The couple face parental opposition and their love is doomed. The film also had some good musical numbers.

The more recent *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak*, a teenage love story, starring Amir Khan and Juhi Chawla, followed in the footsteps of legendary romances like *Romeo and Juliet* or the more Indian *Heer Ranjha*.

In *Qayamat* neither romance nor the tragedy seemed forced and flowed smoothly.

No matter how many times one watches such films, they seem fresh, appealing and enticing, and seem infectious. Not, *Hamara Khandan*, though. This romance is childish, misleading and carries the burden of conveying a heavy social message. When a "social message is involved", the script tends to become didactic, slips from the main theme and the sub-plot takes over.

Director Anwar Pasba can't hold the film together, despite the initial euphoria of romance. Thus, *Hamara Khandan* hoodwinks you into believing it is the "story of every household in



Vicky (Rishi Kapoor) and Rita (Farha) romancing in *Hamara Khandan*.

India" as the advertising posters proclaim. Now, if this were true, every parent would be an ogre like Sethji (Amrith Puri) and every starry eyed individual — girl or boy — would carry his/her heart on the palm. Thankfully this is not so and most sensible people have their hearts in the right place. Vicky (Rishi Kapoor) and Rita (Farha) are not so lucky.

Vicky is a love-lorn guy, pushy, emotional and persistent. Rita can't control her emotions when he sends her a letter and stands under her window, displaying, menacingly, a poison bottle (one suspects poison is cheap) with an ultimatum: come to me or else ... she doesn't.

Vicky commits suicide. Guess what? Vicky plunks to the ground, Rita rushes out and falls into his arms — and as they are in an ideally romantic location — Kashmir, they romp in the snow and dance around the trees. Romance blossoms. Whew!

Now, we spy a fly in the soup. Vicky's father grunts and growls like a tiger on the prowl, muttering something about "hamare khandan ki reet" (the long standing tradition of the family) about obedience to parental authority. He wants to "buy" his son's freedom, black-mails the girl's father, even tries to get rid of Rita. Nothing works. The director won't let it. He has bigger, not better,

things on his mind, like exposing the Indian obsession for a male heir. This calls for a monologue by the long-suffering woman, Vicky's mother (played by the 1960s heroine Asha Parekh). "Science has proven that the man (pointing significantly toward her husband) is responsible for the sex of the child. Why should women be blamed?" she moans. "Now, we (Indians) are using science to get rid of unborn female foetuses", she complains. To! To! At this point, *Khandan* becomes the story of a majority of households in India. Producer Tahir Hussain appeals for an end to female foeticide (as it has been dubbed by the Indian press when the number of abortions doubled after the introduction of sonar tests to determine the sex of the foetus). Well, Hussain could have said this without resorting to complex, misleading romance. But then, Hindi cinema tends to admit social injustices but sugar-coats the real issue in well, this time, romance. And, love circles.... A better idea would be to review the romantic classics. The above films are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya. Tel: 4729000.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.30 Cartoons: Space adventures
- 10.00 Good Morning
- 10.15 Tamar Al Shok: Arabic serial, starring Abdul Munim Madbouli, Rashwan Tawfiq, Fatima Al Tabae, Ahsan Qalawi.
- 11.00 News Summary
- 11.15 Abla Munira: local series, starring Kbalid Al Nafisi, Muna Jabar
- 12.15 Summer Clubs
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.30 Fursan Al Hikmah: Arabic serial
- 3.35 Bill and Sebastian: cartoons
- 4.20 Football: Morocco vs Portugal. Replay of 1986 World Cup match.
- 6.00 Mama Anisa and Children
- 7.15 Alwan: hosted by Rohaj Al Farab
- 7.50 Wa Qalat Al Arab: Aod the Arab Said — daily serial
- 8.10 Quran and Science: "Alam Al Bahar."

- Prepared and presented by Ahmad Shawki Ibrahim.
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Naar Duqqan: Arabic serial, starring: Kamal Shinnawi, Sherihan, Mustafa Fahmi.
- 10.45 Shay Min Al Khout: a classic Arabic feature starring Yahaya Shahin, Shadya and Mahmood Mursi. It tells the story of a people who live in terror and how a young, courageous man brings peace to the nation.
- 12.15 News Summary/Holy Quran/Closedown

### KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Galtar: cartoons
- 6.30 The Craft of the Potter: "Decorating." The delicate craft of the potter is further examined in this documentary.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news and regional events.
- 7.30 The Duck Factory:

- the "Duck" loses its voice when the actor who lends his voice disappears ... another crisis at the duck factory.
- 8.00 News in English.
- 8.40 Miami Vice: "Better Living." The police double efforts to stop a chemist from distributing a harmful drug.
- 9.30 Private Benjamin: "The Party..." Judy plans a party much against her superior's wishes ... comedy.
- 10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "If Looks Could..." A couple plot a perfect murder, using a decoy ...
- 10.30 The Equalizer: "A Dance on the Dark Side." A telephone operator seeks eCall's help ... Starring: Edward Woodward.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine: D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

### BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newswel
- 30 Religious Service
- 0100 News Summary followed by After Henry (ex 25th Parishes and Persepolis)
- 30 The Racing Game (ex 25th)
- 45 A Schubert Anthology
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Peabody Choice (ex 4th Sportsworld)
- 30 Science in Action
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Good Books
- 30 Anything Goes
- 0400 Newsweek
- 30 4th and 11th Behind the Wall: 18th and 25th Where Angels Fear to Tread
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Waveguide
- 0500 World News

- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Nature Notebook
- 45 Recording of the Week
- 0600 Newsweek
- 30 4th Popular Capitalism: 11th The Man in the Moon; 18th Skyfrighters; 25th In Other Words
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 11th English Wine — A Growth Industry; 18th The Future of British Universities; 25th Silent Army
- 45 (4th only) Sportsworld
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 4th and 11th Behind the Wall: 18th and 25th Where Angels Fear to Tread
- 30 Anything Goes
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Good Books
- 30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
- 45 Peabody Choice
- 1000 News Summary followed by

- 4th Popular Capitalism: 11th The Man in the Moon; 18th Skyfrighters; 25th In Other Words
- 30 The Vintage Chart Show
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 4th and 25th Sportsworld; 11th and 18th Health Matters
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 1200 Radio Newswel
- 15 Brain of Britain 1988
- 45 Sports Roundup

ALL TIMES GMT

### Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behteran Quil
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Islamiyat: Daur-e-Hazir
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Hamam Mehmaan
- 2100 Closedown

## WHAT'S ON

### ARTS

#### German Painting Exhibition

An exhibition of German paintings at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel, open daily until July 20. More than 30 paintings, representing the work of a group of German artists known as The Blue Rider, will be shown in the Hilton's lobby. The show has been organised by the German Embassy in Kuwait.

#### Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery, from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

#### Islamic Arts Museum

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm, Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

### SOCIAL

#### German-speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee mornings for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer months. Coffee mornings will be held on Sunday, August 7 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am on those days. All German-speaking women are welcome.

#### Summer Belle 88

The United Goans Centre will hold their annual Summer Belle 88 contest on August 11 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. The gala event marks the 10th anniversary of UGC. Entertainment includes music by Stepping Stones and City Limits. For further details contact Tony Gonsalves — 2612024 or Joe Fernandes 3655140.

**Y.M.C.A.**  
The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

### D'Assisi Association

The association will hold a social evening-cum-variety show on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909 (am), 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754, after 6 pm.

#### Onam Festival

The Viswabarathi Theatres, Abhasiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Perumpilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradayil — 2422973.

### HOTELS

#### At the Meridian

La Brasserie, open from 12 noon to 4 pm, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

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Bldg., Dabbous St., F'heel

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Ibrahim Bin Adham St.  
**Jahra**  
Al Noor Pharmacy  
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah  
Bldg., Matafi St.

### At the Hilton

La Palma has introduced a lunch and dinner buffet cycle featuring a variety of Arabic and international dishes, soups, mezzes, salads and desserts to suit all tastes. Open daily from 6.30 am to midnight.

Beat the summer heat at the La Patisserie, offering ice cream creations, fresh fruit juice and fruit cocktail creations. Open daily from 10.30 am to 10.45 pm. In the evenings, listen to piano music played by the in-house pianist Richard.

#### At the Ramada

El Bender coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 midnight; a la carte also featured.

The take-away counter, open daily from 4 pm to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks. The Lobby Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

#### At the Continental

The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays; the buffet features grilled specialties. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arab and Continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

### At the Holiday Inn

Tropical melon delights are being promoted in various outlets at the hotel ... Al Ahmadi coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also offered.

#### At the Sheraton

Mangoes in the coffee shop: dishes featuring the mango will be offered for a week. Dine in the Riccardo restaurant to enjoy Italian cuisine; music by the Sienna Duo.

Every Sunday, enjoy Lebanese cuisine at the Al Hambra, which features seafood specialties every Wednesday night. Live entertainment is provided by the Lords.

The Hunt Room offers authentic English atmosphere and features a selection of the best grilled food; music by the solo harpist, Harp Dreams.

### SPORTS

#### PBAK bowling tournament

The PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang — 4843447.

## CINEMA TODAY

**Al Andalus**  
Laila Ak Kadd Ala Bakaiza  
Wa Zaghoul (Arabic)  
Starring: Suhair Babli, Issad Yunus  
**Al Sahiya**  
Police Academy IV  
Starring: Steve Guttenburg, Bubba Smith  
**Al Hamra**  
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim  
**Drive-In**  
Hikayat Nisf Million Dollar (Arabic)  
Starring: Yahya Fakhriani, Ilham Shahin  
**Al Firdous**  
Jheel Ke use Paar (Hindi)  
Starring: Dharmendra, Mumtaz  
**Fahabed Open-Air**  
Shiva Shakti (Hindi)

Starring: Shatrughan Sinha, Govinda  
**Al Fahabed**  
True Stores  
**Al Jahra**  
Oasis of Lost Women  
**Granada**  
The Enforcer  
**Sulabikhat**  
The Last Shark  
**Al Jeeb**  
Nisban (Bengali)  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Calibre .357

### PRAYERS

Fajr	3.29 am
Zuhr	11.54
Asr	3.29 pm
Maghreb	6.48
Isha	8.17

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MONEY is like a sixth sense without which you cannot make a complete use of the other five — W. Somerset Maugham, English writer (1874-1965).

## Dalai Lama's dream: semi-autonomy for Tibet

By Steve Tuemmler

DHARAMSALA, India, (UPI): Beijing's blunt rejection of the Dalai Lama's semi-autonomy plan for Tibet has not thwarted the self-exiled god-king, who will forge ahead with his aim of diluting China's influence in the strategic Himalayan region.

The spiritual leader and his senior political advisers said they planned to mobilize world opinion to compel China to allow the Tibetans to administer the remote mountainous area as a democratic "zone of peace."

"The majority of Tibetan people do not want to live under Chinese domination," the Dalai Lama said last week in Dharamsala, 210 miles (338 km) north of New Delhi. But "if we just insist on complete independence, that is also not realistic."

The Dalai Lama proposed on June 15 that China relinquish control over Tibet except for foreign affairs and, for a limited period, defence.

## Rejecting

China responded by flatly rejecting "any form of independence" for Tibet, but said the spiritual leader of 6 million Tibetans is welcome to visit Beijing provided he does not discuss complete self-rule for the region.

Analysts remained skeptical Beijing would bargain away its control of Tibet, which comprises 25 per cent of China's land mass and is strategically crucial because it borders India, with China has a longstanding frontier dispute.

"China thinks Tibet is a very important strategic area and more autonomy may lead to further demands and problems," said Sujit Dutta of New Delhi's Institute for Defence Studies.

Officials of the Dalai Lama's government-in-exile said they would soon propose talks with Beijing. If these yielded substantive concessions, the Dalai Lama would visit China for his first direct dealings with the superpower since he fled Lhasa during a 1959 general revolt, they said.

## Reaction

"We were expecting the Chinese might show an initial negative reaction," the Dalai Lama said. "However, we believe eventually there can be some dialogue and negotiation."

Lodi Gyari, a minister in the emigre government who has twice led delegations to Beijing, said the Tibetans would not initially discuss demands related

to the nettlesome subject of sovereignty.

Instead, he said they would try to negotiate an end to the "colonization" of Tibet with ethnic Chinese, and an agreement to allow Tibetans to choose local authorities and create democratic institutions.

"We are willing to stay together with China, but we are not willing to accept the Chinese as masters," Gyari said. Under this plan "the Chinese can stay within the family."

The Dalai Lama said China could keep defence installations along border areas, but said a long-term military presence would become unnecessary because he would declare Tibet a nuclear-free peace zone and a "holiday resort."

Analysts said the Tibetans' best hope is to appeal to liberal factions within the Chinese government who are staging sweeping economic reforms and presenting a more benign image to the world.

They said Taiwan will be watching very closely how China deals with Tibet given Beijing's recent proposal that Taipei, like the British colony of Hong Kong, be reunited with the mainland under the concept of "one country, two systems."

## Negotiate

"China's willingness to negotiate almost totally depends on international pressure," Dutta said. "China is susceptible because it has so much at stake."

Tibetans officials said they need the West to be more strident in condemning human rights abuses by the Chinese against Tibetans, mostly during riots that have flared sporadically in Lhasa since September.

"This (semi-autonomy) proposal should be given backing so that democracy can spread into China," Gyari said. "There is a group of quite enlightened leaders in China who do want to bring about changes."

But before the Dalai Lama can sell the plan to China, he must first convince many Tibetans to give up their dream of independence.

The maroon-robed monk admitted he had received many protests against the plan from members of the 100,000-strong exile community. Lobsang Tsering, Tibetan Youth Congress president, recently declared "nobody has the right to give up the struggle for Tibetan independence."

## Venezuelan politics

## Leftists mustering grass roots support

By Carrie Figdor

CARACAS, Venezuela, (AP): Venezuela's left, a feeble third force in a democracy dominated by two centrist parties, is gambling for its survival with an electoral strategy aimed at the grass roots level.

In response to the electorate's disenchantment with a system that rewards party line bureaucrats with almost lifetime official tenure, they are knocking at factory gates and promoting homegrown politicians for seats in the national and state legislatures.

With no hope for wresting the powerful presidency from Accion Democratica (AD) or Copei, the left is betting it can piece together a greater share of power by wooing minor posts away from the big parties.

"The political system is showing its vulnerabilities in the old corrupt men in the party bureaucracies. Thirty years have passed, they've worked in a political system that hasn't changed, and they have no desire to change. These men can be challenged," said Teodoro Petkoff, the 1960's guerrilla leader-turned-Congressman, in an interview with the Associated Press.

Petkoff represents the Movement to Socialism (MAS), Venezuela's biggest leftist party.

## Supporting

MAS, along with the Revolutionary Left Movement (MLR), is supporting Petkoff for president even though he is not expected to win more than around 7 per cent of the vote, far behind AD's Carlos Andres Perez, the expected winner, and Copei's Eduardo Fernandez, the main challenger.

But even Petkoff, who admits

his candidacy is just "to be in the game," says MAS is putting its weight behind its legislative candidates, who have earned the recognition of voters through political action in their states.

The MAS-MIR combination now has 12 representatives and two senators in the bi-cameral National Congress of 182 representatives and 42 senators.

This year, they presented to the press 60 candidates to the National Congress from 15 states, two federal territories and the Caracas federal district. It does not have candidates in eight states.

"Now voters will know who their ballot stands for, and who the men and women are that will represent them," Petkoff said.

## Dissatisfaction

The same sense of voter dissatisfaction has inspired a new left movement, Causa R (for radical), to launch a similar, grass roots attack on the mainstream labour sector.

Causa R, like MAS, is running a presidential candidate with no hope of winning? Andres Velasquez, a 34-year-old steelworker from Guayana, the heavy industrial centre of eastern Venezuela.

The movement controls the union at the state steelmaker Siderurgica del Orinoco-Sidor, and has made inroads into the unions of other heavy industries in Guayana and other industrial cities.

But unlike MAS, its main target is the Venezuelan Workers Confederation (CTV), an AD-dominated organization upon which much of AD's traditional political dominance rests.

While it is running candidates for the December legislative elections, the movement's real aim is to mobilize the political support gained in December to win a spot on the CTV's executive committee in the confederation's internal elections next year.

## New opportunity to take a tough line

## Ship attack tests Greek counter-terrorism stance

By Kerin Hope

ATHENS, Greece, (AP): The terrorist massacre this month aboard a Greek cruise ship has given Greece a new opportunity to take a tough line toward terrorism.

Over the past decade, a series of assassinations and bomb attacks in Greece have made some diplomats and businessmen question Greece's resolve to battle terrorist attacks. Greeks, Americans and Arabs have among the victims.

Greek police have conducted some counter-terrorism training with British and American security experts. But they never have arrested any member of the two leading local terrorist groups.

One of the left-wing groups, called November 17, claims 13 political assassinations since 1975, including the deaths of three American diplomats. The other, Revolutionary Popular Struggle, is responsible for several hundred bomb explosions but no deaths.

The massacre July 11 by gun-

men aboard the cruise ship City of Poros left one person dead and 98 injured, the highest casualty toll of any recent terrorist incident. The socialist government lost no time resolving to act tough against terrorists.

## Confront

"We intend to do whatever is necessary to effectively confront this scourge," Premier Andreas Papandreu declared after the attack. "I think the only way to face it is through international co-operation, since terrorism isn't a national phenomenon. It's an international one."

Greek authorities believe the City of Poros attackers hoped to hijack the ship and its 471 passengers to force the release of a Palestinian, Mohammed Rashid, awaiting trial here.

Rashid was arrested on charges of entering Greece on a false passport, an act that itself appeared to be a sign of terrorism. Greek attitude toward terrorism, Rashid is wanted in the United States for allegedly planting a bomb on a Pan Am

plane that killed one person and injured 15 others.

After the City of Poros attack, the Justice Ministry ordered an immediate trial for Rashid. He was jailed for seven months as a result, opening the way for possible extradition to the United States.

## Charges

In the past, Greece has been criticized by its Western allies for failing to bring charges against suspected terrorists operating here.

In 1984, the government had freed a Palestinian suspected of trying to blow up an Israeli jetliner with a sophisticated suitcase bomb, saying there was insufficient evidence against him.

One year ago, the United States accused the Socialists of making deals with terrorists, allowing them free movement around Greece in return for not staging attacks on Greek soil.

Soon afterward, an Arab-run business in Athens that Western intelligence officials said was a front for the Abu Nidal organ-

ization was shut down. The group was accused of killing a Palestinian journalist in Athens in 1985.

An Abu Nidal member identified as Abdel Ossama Al Zomor has been jailed in Greece since 1982. He is awaiting extradition to Italy for allegedly planning the attack on the Rome synagogue in 1982 that killed a small child.

## Implicated

Over the years, members of other Palestinian factions like Black September and May 15 also have been implicated in attacks in Greece. But there have been few arrests.

After the cruise ship attack, the Papandreu government moved swiftly to demonstrate its new counter-terrorism policy.

While stressing that Greece still supports the Palestinian cause, the government made it clear that terrorists should stay away.

"We condemn every attempt to use our peaceful and calm country as an area to resolve differences between various fac-

tions ... these are very serious cases of abuse of hospitality and democratic freedom," said government spokesman Sotiris Kostopoulos.

"Our country has allowed entry of all sorts of people from the Third World who settle their differences on Greek territory," Nicolas Kostakis, a parliament member from the main right-wing New Democracy Party, said in a debate this week.

## Attacks

The conservatives also have claimed that terrorist attacks were not solved because the perpetrators were protected because of links with members of Papandreu's ruling Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK).

PASOK grew out of the PAK, a left-wing resistance movement founded by Papandreu to fight the 1967-74 military dictatorship in Greece. Some of its members trained in PLO camps in the early 1970s.

Several former PAK activists now hold high positions in the Socialist government. One of Sifis Valyrakis, the

current undersecretary for public order, the ministry that handles counter-terrorism, who was investigated by a previous conservative government on suspicion of belonging to November 17.

But Western diplomats say some of the blame for the government's failure to smash November 17 may be old-fashioned police methods and a lack of counter-terrorism expertise.

November 17, which seeks closure of the American bases here and Greek withdrawal from NATO, is named for the day in 1973 that troops crushed a student rebellion against the dictatorship.

The group claimed last month the killing of US Navy captain William E. Nordene, the military attaché at the American embassy, in a car-bomb explosion as he was driving to work.

It emerged in 1975 with the assassination of Richard Welch, the CIA station chief in Greece and has since claimed the killings of several Greek businessmen, publishers and police officers.

LET ME EXPLAIN WHY AMERICA IS NOT REALLY A DEBTOR NATION



FOREIGNERS ARE BUYING UP AMERICAN FACTORIES, FARMS AND REAL ESTATE...



ALL THE "DEBTOR NATION" TALK IS BASED ON THE HUGE TRADE DEFICIT



AND IF THEY CONTINUE AT THE CURRENT RATE...



BUT THAT DEFICIT DOESN'T COUNT ALL THE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMING INTO AMERICA



PRETTY SOON THE DEBT WILL BELONG TO THEM!



By Adam Kellihier

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka, (UPI): Elbert Jayakumar's body is etched with the brutal signatures of Sri Lanka's 5-year-old civil war.

One of the 19-year-old youth's toes was blown off by a sharp bullet delivered by a Tamil guerrilla during a firefight with Sri Lankan troops in May 1987.

His back and arms are scarred from cigarette burns he said were inflicted by interrogators at Boossa Camp, a prison where he was held for four months with other rebel sympathizers.

And his ankles and elbows are speckled with sores from electric shocks he said were administered by Indian troops, who seized him in June and demanded he identify members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the loose militant group still fighting for independence for the island's 2.3 million Hindu Tamils.

"After Boossa I did fishing and had no contact with 'the boys' (Tamil militants)," said Jayakumar, who as the eldest of nine children had to support his family after his father was killed by a shell that destroyed their home on the northern Jaffna peninsula. "Now I don't know what to do."

Jayakumar is typical of a generation of Tamil youth left angered and dispossessed by civil war, a conflict fought with automatic weapons and helicopter gunships, but rooted in long-

## No sign of peace in war-torn Sri Lanka

standing historical and cultural animosities and bigotry. Disaffection is not only confined to the Tamil-dominated north and east of the teardrop-shaped Indian Ocean island once known as Ceylon, which is home to 15 million people, 80 per cent of them Sinhalese Buddhists.

An insurgency is growing in the south involving young Sinhalese radicals enraged by the government's bid to appease Tamil demands for autonomy under a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan peace plan that brought Indian peacekeeping troops to Sri Lanka.

## Hate

Leaving the Indian soldiers to deal with the Tamils, the Sri Lankan Army has moved against the Sinhalese militants in the south, using the same harsh tactics against them it had employed against minority Tamils.

Like the Tamil rebels they hate, members of the People's Liberation Front, commonly known by its Sinhalese initials JVP, have embraced extremism in the face of the island's endemic problems of unemployment, mundane lives and the death of social and economic opportunities.

Both youth rebellions have challenged the very social fabric of the ancient country, ruled under tough state of emergency laws by 81-year-old President

Junius Jayewardene.

"Sri Lankan society has been brutalized," said a senior Indian diplomat. "They have gone through a very violent catharsis, but neither side has acquired the vision to come to terms with each other and overcome this tragedy."

Disensions are so wide the pristine tropical nation seems destined to remain in turmoil for years to come unless radicals from each community can be tamed and taught the benefits of compromise.

"If we fail to get Tamil Eelam today, we will get it tomorrow," said LTTE commander Jeyan, fingering a 357 Magnum pistol in his jungle hideout. "If not then, it will be the day after, and so on, into the next generation."

## Disastrous

Many difficulties stem from the erosion of the authority of the Sinhalese-dominated government, paralysed by the two guerrilla movements who assassinate officials, close public offices and banks, shut down schools and disrupt transport.

The impact of the instability, particularly on the economy, has been disastrous for a country once hailed as model Third World nation for its progressive health and education policies that resulted in low infant mortality and 86 per cent literacy.

## Ugandan rebels making peace

By Didrikke Schanche

KAMPALA, Uganda, (AP): Many Ugandan rebels are making peace with the government and emerging from their hideouts to help rebuild a nation convulsed by almost constant war since independence a quarter-century ago.

Once East Africa's richest nation, Uganda is staggering under nearly \$2 billion in foreign debt, galloping inflation, widespread corruption and rampant black marketeering.

But rebel insurgencies in the northern Savannah country and the swampy east have eased, freeing money badly needed for reconstruction and development since twice-deposed leader Milton Obote led the country to independence from Britain with promises of tranquility and wealth in 1962.

"Peace in our time is breaking out all over the place," US

ambassador Robert Houdek said in an interview.

The powerful Uganda People's Democratic Army ended its 18-month-old northern offensive June 3 through a peace treaty with President Yoweri Museveni, who himself came to power in January 1986 after winning a five-year bush war.

## Goals

Rebel and government officials said the truce was reached after the UPDA, largely remnants of troops under Obote's second rule, against which Museveni's insurgency began, decided its goals were similar to those of the NRA and disowned exiled leaders in London who called for continued fighting.

The UPDA claimed to have 5,000 men in the north around Gulu, 175 miles (283 kilometres) north of the capital Kampala. Museveni has promised those rebels not guilty of atrocities can

join his National Resistance Army or go home.

Obote's forces during his 1981-84 rule waged a vicious counterinsurgency campaign against Museveni's guerrillas and killed hundreds of thousands of civilians as suspected rebel supporters.

Since seizing control of Uganda on Jan 27, 1986, Museveni has brought members of numerous political parties and smaller guerrilla groups into his cabinet and Army in an effort to end tribal and factional conflicts that have fractured the nation.

Government control also is being restored through the east and northeast where rebels loosely grouped as the Uganda People's Army under Obote's Defence Minister Peter Otai are taking advantage of an amnesty Museveni offered last August. The government claims as many as 10,000 of the eastern insurgents have put down their arms.

## Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan

## A new period of tension likely in Indian subcontinent

By Hugh Pain

KABUL, (Reuters): The Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan may herald a new period of tension in the Indian subcontinent.

"The conflicting Indian and Pakistani positions on Afghanistan will make the next few months particularly bitter — I foresee a bad patch for Indo-Pakistan relations," predicted a Western diplomat in New Delhi.

"South Asia's destiny revolves around Islamabad and New Delhi, and not Kabul," said Pakistani political commentator Ikramullah, adding that Islamabad saw its long-term security and defence at stake in the outcome of the conflict in Afghanistan.

Since the Soviet intervention in December 1979, the equation has been basically simple.

Pakistan, seeing a threat on its northern border, bitterly opposed the Soviet presence and permitted its territory to be used not only by some three million Afghan refugees but also by the disparate mujahideen rebel groups fighting the Russians.

## Channel

More significantly, it was the main channel for US arms for the mujahideen. And although that channel was meant to dry up at last month's Geneva accords, reports from Peshawar say it is still flowing.

India, on the other hand, never criticised the action of its Soviet friends and maintained close

relations with the Soviet-installed government in Kabul.

As the Soviet Union disengages, the regional rivalry is thrown into sharper relief.

India invited President Najibullah to Delhi last month — the first on-Soviet bloc country to do so — thus firmly lining up beside him on the world's stage and incurring the wrath of Pakistan.

A Western analyst saw this as a shrewd move. If Najibullah remains in power India will have a firm friend and will also have cemented ties with the Soviet Union. On the other hand a mujahideen government takes power, it is certain to line up alongside Pakistan, so India has nothing to lose.

## Surprise

I.P. Khosla, Indian ambassador in Kabul, professed surprise over Islamabad's reaction to Najibullah's Delhi trip. "We were a little puzzled that the Pakistanis were so angry," he said. "We consider that Afghanistan is very much part of South Asia."

A Western diplomat saw Pakistan as "increasingly paranoid about Indian intentions" and fearing being squeezed between a hostile India and a hostile Afghanistan, with an unpredictable Iran on its western border.

For Islamabad, an Islamic mujahideen government in Kabul would be its most valuable prize in 40 years in countering Indian dominance in the subcontinent, he said. And the muja-

hadeen have confirmed that they view Pakistan as a natural ally.

"Of course we see no role for India. Instead of making up for past mistakes Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is going deeper into the political quagmire," said an official of the Jamiat-ul-Islami rebel group in Peshawar, referring to the invitation to Delhi extended to Najibullah.

## Jitteriness

The prospect of this solid anti-Indian bloc in South Asia, said a diplomat, had produced "increasing Indian jitteriness over all things Pakistani."

India would try to ensure Najibullah survived in power, he said, by championing him in international forums like the Non-Aligned Movement.

Ambassador Khosla discounted this but said India would certainly continue to lobby against "the influx of US arms and Pakistan's nuclear programme."

One Western diplomat put it more bluntly: "India will stir it up in Washington over why US arms supplies are continuing, and will try to mobilise the non-proliferation lobby in Congress."

Pakistan, on the other hand, will want to keep India firmly out of the battle for Afghanistan.

Despite the departure of the Russians, the battle is far from over for Afghanistan or for South Asia as a whole.

In the words of the New Delhi diplomat: "There are all the ingredients for quite a hot summer."

## Yugoslav Army puts journalists on trial

the three journalists' trial as a crackdown on free and independent news media. They accuse conservatives to the Yugoslav leaders of trying to quell liberalization in Slovenia.

Not one "political crime" has been prosecuted in Slovenian courts in a year, even though a number of people have been sentenced for such crimes elsewhere in Yugoslavia. Outside Slovenia, newspapers have been banned on charges of "hostile propaganda," offenses such as "insulting" the prime minister or articles local authorities considered "hostile" to the regime.

A Belgrade human rights committee, which joined a Slovenian human rights committee to defend two of the arrested journalists, appealed to Communist Party leaders in Serbia — considered as hardliners by many — to halt "conservative efforts to hamper by non-constitutional means an ongoing process of unavoidable democratization in the whole country, and particularly in Serbia and Slovenia."

Slovenian leaders, siding with the liberals, argued that individual outbursts of Slovenian nationalism and sporadic anti-military incidents must not be used to fan anti-Slovenian sentiments in the rest of Yugoslavia.

Some Slovenian restaurants have signs saying "We do not serve soldiers," and slogans have appeared on the northern republic's walls saying "Southerners, go home from."

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 64 — Great fire of Rome begins, and legend is that Emperor Nero set the blaze and played his fiddle as Rome burned.
- 1496 — England nominally joins Holy League against France.
- 1536 — Authority of Pope is declared void in England.
- 1658 — Leopold I is elected Holy Roman emperor.
- 1792 — France declares war on Sardinia.
- 1812 — Britain, by treaty of Orebro, joins Sweden and Russia against France.
- 1872 — Britain introduces voting by secret ballot.
- 1912 — Tewfik Pasha becomes grand vizier of Persia following fall of Said Pasha's ministry.
- 1923 — British Matrimonial Causes Act gives women equality in divorce suits.
- 1925 — Druzes begin insurrection in Syria.
- 1962 — Peru government is overthrown by military leaders and United States halts military aid to that country.
- 1966 — South Africa declares it will continue control of South-West Africa states.
- 1972 — Egyptian government orders Soviet Union to withdraw military advisers stationed in Egypt.
- 1974 — Archbishop Makarios, ousted president of Cyprus, arrives in New York to seek support at United Nations.
- 1987 — Iraq claims advances in battle against Iran.



# World Bank withholds funds

By Jan Rocha

FIFTEEN million Brazilians have no birth certificate. Legally they do not exist. They cannot be registered at a health post as babies, they cannot go to school, they cannot get married when they grow up.

Their parents could not afford to pay the price—about \$3—demanded by the registry offices, which are all privately owned. Owning a registry office is a sure way to become a millionaire in Brazil and until Congress ended the privilege this week, they passed from father to son.

Unregistered and un-schooled, many of these children will end up in institutional care, abandoned or delinquent. "Out of every 100 children who arrive here, 70 have no birth certificate," said the director of Rio de Janeiro's child welfare department.

In contrast, almost 50 per cent of the places at Brazil's free state universities are occupied by students from families with above-average incomes.

**Distorted**  
A report prepared for UNICEF by two professors at the economics faculty of Sao Paulo University describes the situation: "What exists in Brazil is a highly distorted social policy with minimal humanitarian criteria."

"The state spends a considerable portion of the GNP, about 20 per cent, on the social sector, but this enormous sum of money is unequally distributed. The social programmes run by the government rarely benefit the poorest and often favour more the middle class or even the rich."

As a result, while Brazil is

**Brazil is sixth among world arms exporters but it is 68th in the infant mortality league, behind much smaller and poorer countries.**

**A survey indicates that two-thirds of the population do not get enough to eat and the authorities have been accused of inefficiency and corruption.**

among the top 10 world economies, "large segments of absolute misery proliferate and per capita income is still low."

Brazil is the sixth world arms exporter, and sells training planes to the RAF, but it is 68th in the infant mortality league, behind much smaller and poorer countries. Two-thirds of the population do not get enough to eat, according to a government survey.

There are several reasons why Brazil's social programmes make little impact on poverty and hunger. A World Bank report found that inefficiency was caused by maladministration, excessive bureaucracy and the interference of political criteria in the distribution of funds. Up to 135 signatures may be needed before a grant from a federal agency to a small town is cleared.

"To simplify the process would mean people giving up the chance to show their political influence—and nobody wants to lose influence," a government official said.

An attempt was made during the government of the last military president, General Joao Figueiredo, to do away with bureaucracy. A "ministry of de-bureaucracy" was set up

to cut out red tape, but did not last long.

Inflation, currently running at 600 per cent a year, will have devalued the grant by the time it reaches its destination. Administration costs take up to 67 per cent of the money for education in the north-east, Brazil's poorest region.

"Brazilian school systems generally spend a high share of their budgets on teachers' salaries, but many of these trained teachers are never used for teaching," the World Bank report said.

It also mentioned the "ghost" teachers—political proteges who figure on the payroll but never dirty their hands with chalk. In the north-east, more than half of those who do teach have not finished primary school themselves.

In health, the main problem is the relegation of preventive medicine, which gets only 15 per cent of the budget, while hospital-based, doctor-controlled, curative medicine gets 85 per cent.

The sum of these distorted social policies is that a population which already has one of the highest income concentrations in the world—7 per cent taking 40 per cent of national income, while 67 per cent get only 20 per cent—also misses

out on the health, education and welfare programmes that could help to make up for low real wages.

Brazil is not longer a mainly rural country—two thirds of the population are urban dwellers, even if their city home is a wooden shanty, rather than a modern flat. But Brazil's industrialised, urbanised status has not been accompanied by a welfare society "safety net." And this modernisation of the economy has not touched the privileges enjoyed by archaic, inefficient, but politically influential sectors like the rural aristocracy.

## Committee

A government committee was set up at the beginning of President Sarney's administration to evaluate the huge programme of tax incentives introduced by the military regime, which had channelled more than \$6 billion of public money to private projects between 1975 and 1985. It found that far from redistributing income, the money meant to create thousands of jobs in farming, fishing and forestry projects had in most cases had been misapplied to unprofitable projects or used to speculate.

The committee found that more than half the agro-cattle projects approved by the Amazon Development Agency had gone to companies which were not legally eligible. Many of the companies had used public money to devastate protected forest and even invade Indian reserves. The World Bank is now reported to be withholding money from Brazilian projects, until a more efficient, less corrupt system of administration is put into practice.



Children of the storm — Brazilian youngsters held in one of Brazil's temporary internment centres while charges against them are investigated.

# Middle East water problems by 2000

By Linda Feldmann

WASHINGTON: In Alexandria, Egypt, sewage is fouling the water supply.

In the Gaza Strip, contamination of the water has reached a critical level, fueling political violence.

In Iraq, pollution from development along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers has forced some villages to import drinking water.

And by the year 2000, serious water shortages and contamination in many Middle Eastern nations could bring upheaval throughout the region, a report by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) warns.

Some nations are looking ahead and acting.

Turkey, for example, is proposing to share its abundance of water by constructing a multinational "peace pipeline," though the projected cost of \$20 billion may prove prohibitive. The United States is already engaged in dozens of projects, but it needs to coordinate these efforts better, the study says. Although diplomatic initiatives should be continued at all costs, technological advances are likely to bring quicker results.

The study proposes that the US government: Set up a coordinating body for all its Mideast water programmes.

Such a body would serve as a clearinghouse for information and could ultimately reduce costs by making US efforts more efficient.

Create a US-Mideast water programme to spur develop-

**Serious water shortages and contamination in many Middle Eastern nations could bring upheaval throughout the region.**

ment of advanced water technologies.

The programme would bring to the US American and Mideast specialists for joint study on pollution control, water reuse, farming, and solar energy.

The second proposal has two hitch: politics and money. Getting Arabs and Israelis to work together is always a problem.

Joyce Starr, co-author of the study, hopes that by basing the programme in the United States, specialists from belligerent nations can work together out of the political limelight. And if they are really not willing, they can at least share information by computer, she says. In November 1986, the CSIS managed to get Arab and Israeli government officials together for a conference on water—a meeting so sensitive that it was not publicised until two weeks after it took place and the names of the Arab officials were not disclosed. Syria would not attend because Israel was there.

Arab-Israeli cooperation on the water issue does not pretend to substitute for the peace process. Ms Starr says, stressing that if the Mideast nations wait for a political solution to the region's problems, the

water situation could reach crisis stage.

The money issue hinges on the US Congress. CSIS proposes that the US foot the estimated \$10 billion bill for the first three years of the programme. This is a trifling amount, Starr says, when one considers the cost of emergency relief for the millions of people who will starve if the water situation reaches crisis proportions.

But Congress is in the business of cutting costs these days, not adding them. And in discussions with congressmen on the issue, Starr has been discouraged.

"We found almost no members of Congress aware of or interested in the problem," she says.

## Where risks are highest

"Ironically, those from states with their own water problems (i.e., the Southwest) seemed least interested in helping with the Middle East situation. They say they can't worry about other people's water problems when their own are so pressing."

Starr and her colleagues are planning a campaign to increase awareness in Congress.

Although fresh-water supply is a major issue for most of the

Middle East, the outlook for Egypt, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Syria, and Iraq is particularly serious.

Almost all major water sources in the Mideast are used by more than one nation, which heightens the potential for conflict. Collaboration is rare.

Some highlights of the Mideast water problem:

— Egypt: With its burgeoning population and almost sole reliance on the Nile for water, could be facing a crisis by the year 2000.

— Jordan: By 2000, need may exceed supply by 30 per cent. The upper Jordan River is already fully developed. May face conflict with Syria over its development plans.

— West Bank: Main water potential is fully exploited, with Israel getting 95 per cent of it, according to the West Bank Data Project.

— Gaza Strip: Serious contamination of water supplies. Aquifers overpumped. New sewage systems would cost \$16 million, which Israel is unlikely to provide.

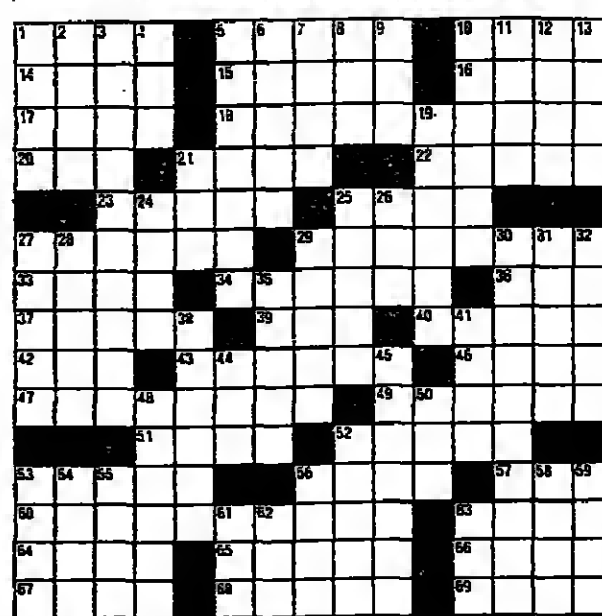
— Syria: Shortages mounting, even in major cities. Syrian development of upper Yarmuk River could end up reducing Jordanian water supplies, if terms of recent agreement with Jordan are not observed. The two nations have agreed to construct a dam that would benefit both.

— Iraq: Gulf war has slowed development.

Pollution from upstream development on Tigris and Euphrates Rivers is biggest problem.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 Hence
- 5 Palindromic title
- 10 "I never — purple cow..."
- 14 Glaciarium
- 15 Mirror reflection
- 18 Bankroll items
- 19 Tense
- 18 In fine fashion
- 20 Indian weight
- 21 Archipelago unit
- 22 In a huff
- 23 Ease
- 25 Kitchen spice
- 27 Secret
- 28 Manuscript
- 33 Disinformation
- 34 Leap
- 36 Colorless gas: Comb. form
- 37 Proposal
- 39 Gambler's cube
- 40 Playboys
- 42 Widespread
- 43 Decrees
- 45 "An Officer and a Gentleman"
- 47 Put on the air
- 49 Carpentry and pottery, e.g.
- 51 Far-flung
- 52 Pursuit
- 53 Power source
- 56 Lined up
- 57 Law, in Paris
- 60 Tit for tat
- 63 Like falling off —

### DOWN

- 1 — bian
- 2 Conceal
- 3 Inept
- 4 Cloudland
- 5 Trip
- 6 In good supply
- 7 Dingle
- 8 Ripen
- 9 Certain mortals
- 10 Evening party
- 11 Time — half
- 12 Doubled edge or seam
- 13 "— sow..."
- 19 Bargain
- 21 Actor
- Richardson
- 24 Diamond
- 25 Ceanote's contemporary
- 26 Part of IRA
- 27 Airborne
- 28 Springfield, for one
- 29 Orange extract
- 30 Mate
- 31 Try hard
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## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

CHANCES ARE SLIGHT, BUT ...

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**

♠ 6 5 2

♥ 10 9 4

♦ J 7 3

♣ A 6 5 3

**WEST**

♠ J 10 9 4 3

♥ K Q 5 2

♦ K

♣ J 7 2

**EAST**

♠ Q 8 7

♥ 7 6

♦ Q 9 8 5 4

♣ 9 8

**SOUTH**

♠ A K

♥ A J 3

♦ A 10 6 2

♣ K Q 10 4

The bidding:

South West North East

2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Sometimes you can combine two

lines of play to greatly increase your

chances of making your contract.

On other occasions your thoughtful

play might only gain an extra per-

centage point or two; but that

doesn't mean you should ignore that

added edge.

The auction was routine. North

had nothing to spare for his raise,

but to pass would have been craven.

West led the top of his spade se-

quence, and declarer paused to

count his tricks. Assuming that the

club suit would run, declarer had

eight fast tricks—two spades, one

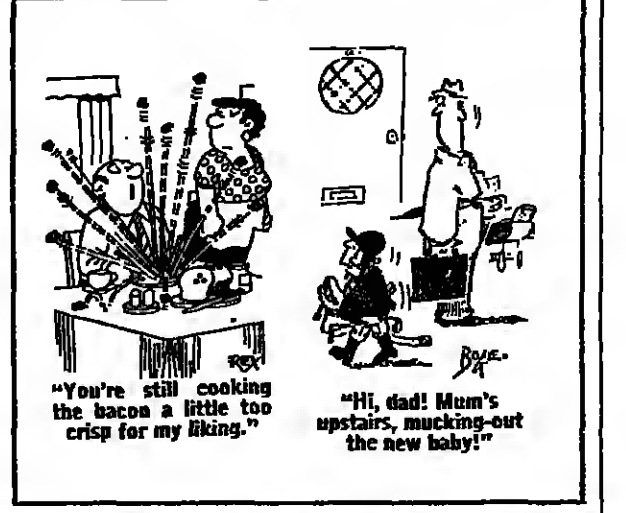
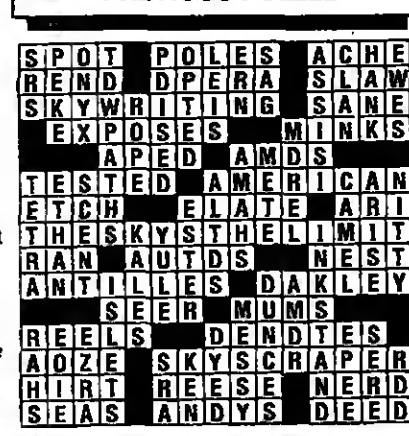
trick, one diamond and four clubs.

The obvious place to find the extra trick was in hearts; if East held at least one of the two missing heart honors, a 3-to-1 shot, a second heart trick could be developed via two finesses. Careful manipulation of the club spots would make that suit furnish the necessary dummy entries.

However, the fact that declarer and dummy combined held seven diamonds, including the jack and ten, offered an additional chance. On about one hand in 20, either West or East will hold a singleton honor in diamonds, and it makes no difference whether it is the king or the queen. When that honor drops under the ace, the jack-10 between the two hands will furnish the game-going trick regardless of the heart position.

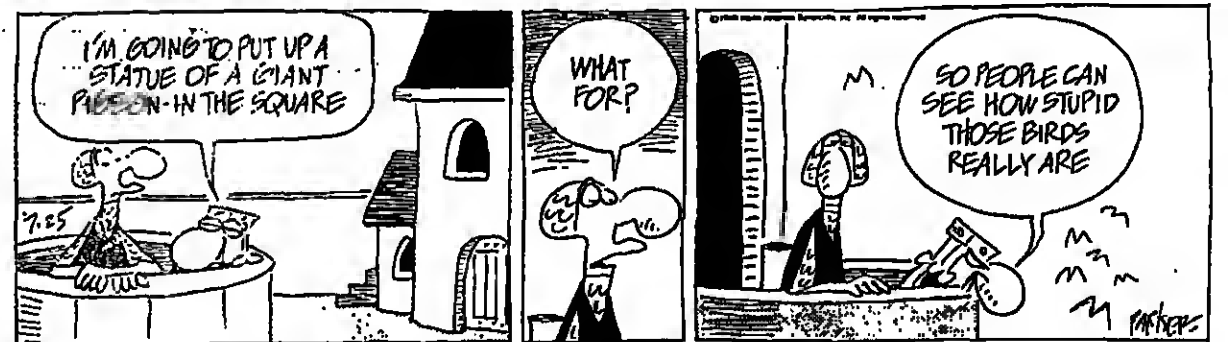
Since the opponents will set up their spade suit as soon as they gain the lead, you cannot afford to lose a quick trick. Therefore, you must test the diamonds before taking even one heart finesse. Win the king of spades and cash the ace of diamonds. When the king drops, simply continue with a diamond to set up your ninth trick. Had no honor appeared, you would have cashed the king and queen of clubs and then overtaken the ten with dummy's ace to run the ten of hearts. The six of clubs would be the entry to repeat the heart finesse.

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



**Aries** (March 20 - April 18)

You will have a lot to do so do not waste any time doing it. Try not to allow your animosities to stand in the way of a fair assessment. Do not rely on guesswork. Be a little more affectionate.



**Cancer** (June 21 - July 21)

This is going to be an interesting day for you only you must not allow your concentration to be distracted. You will be able to do something you really enjoy doing. You are rather more liable to make mistakes. Be generous.



**Libra** (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You are under mixed influences and you should avoid concerning yourself with secondary matters. Make sure others also know what you mean. Spend a little more time dealing with a personal matter. Be punctual.



**Capricorn** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You should read the instructions carefully before turning on a new device. You will be better able to distinguish what is important from what is not. Do not take anything for granted just now. Be less solemn.



**Taurus** (April 19 - May 19)

You should make yourself a little more approachable. Make sure you do all that is needed to meet your commitments. Do not try to pass the buck. Be loyal.



**Leo** (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will be able to get a move on with something you have under way. You will have to be on your guard against dissipating your energies. There will be something that needs your immediate attention. Be reliable.



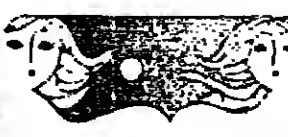
**Scorpio** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will have plenty to do so try to concentrate hard. Make sure you get all the rest you need. You are in danger of confusing something that is not important with something that is. Be convivial.



**Aquarius** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be able to assert yourself but should try not to make others feel resentful. You will not have as much time to spare as you thought you would have. Avoid eating more than you know you should. Be firm.



**Gemini** (May 20 - June 20)

You should stand by a friend of yours who is in some kind of trouble. You should avoid making up your mind on the spur of the moment. Venus's less favourable influence means you will have to work harder at your love life. Be objective.



**Virgo** (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

Do not try to do too many things all at once. The Moon's influence will tend to make you more vulnerable. You should not take everything quite so literally. Be more unbecoming.



**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Mars' better influence will help you to cope with a difficult situation. Do all you can to maintain harmony with your partner. You should not take things quite at their face value. Be tolerant.



**Pisces** (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to make good progress with a project that is important to you. You will succeed but not exactly in the way you had intended. Try to avoid being inconsistent. Be more moderate.



## WILDLIFE

By Philip Williams

NAIROBI: There were no niceties. The poaching gang killed the young elephant with a rifle and then, with a chain saw, cut off the whole front of the head to get the ivory off fast.

A second dead elephant riddled with bullets by the same band was younger still. The skull was no bigger than a basketball and the tusks would have been no thicker than pencils.

British-born naturalist Ian Redmond saw these animals recently in northwest Kenya's Mount Elgon National Park. But the grisly picture is the same all over tropical Africa.

"Even the most cautious scientists now recognise that the elephant will become an endangered species if the present offtake of ivory continues," said Nairobi-based elephant specialist Ian Douglas-Hamilton.

Ivory poaching is rife and ruthless. Redmond said the underfunded, underarmed, hopelessly ill-equipped ranger staff at Mount Elgon is convinced the poachers even use anti-tank guns to kill elephants quickly.

It is thought there are only 750,000 elephants left in the whole of Africa. Nine years ago there were 1.3 million.

Indiscriminate killing of herds — even tuskless females and juveniles — is reducing the number so fast that a simple mathematical progression all would be dead before the end of the century.

"If these numbers of elephants continue to be killed, then the species will simply die out," said US-born conservationist Esmond Bradley Martin. "The illegal ivory trade has to be stopped."

About 800 tons of ivory is finding a ready market in the world every year, and more than 50 per cent of it is illegal. Experts say that represents up to 80,000 dead elephants every 12 months, the overwhelming majority killed by poachers in Africa — most in Tanzania, Zambia, Zaire, Mozambique and Kenya.

The big herds in southern Sudan and Uganda have already gone.

Average tusk weights on the market are falling alarmingly, indicating younger and younger elephants are being killed. The average tusk weight was 21 pounds (9.5 kg) in 1978 and was 11.5 pounds (5.2 kg) last year.

Price. Partly in consequence, the price of ivory has hit an all-time high of \$155 a kilogram (2.2 lbs). In 1986 it fetched \$90.

"For East Africa, the data would suggest that the elephant



A herd of elephants grazing, oblivious in the threats to their survival.

## The vanishing elephant

is already an endangered species," Hamilton said. "There is no way the East African elephant could sustain over the next 10 years the ivory offtake of the last 10 without going extinct."

Hamilton, who made his name in the 1970s studying elephants in the Lake Manyara reserve in Tanzania, returned there recently for a count.

He found less than 200 of the 500 elephants he counted in 1981. He could not find a single animal over the age of 30, when tusks are mature.

"It is as if an entire generation has been wiped out," he wrote in a report just published and shared elephant experts across the world.

Using complex mathematical models, Douglas-Hamilton estimated the number of Kenyan elephants in 1973 at 120,000. By 1977 that was down to 60,000. His latest figure is 20,000 — only half of them in protected areas.

Tanzania, which boasted nearly 200,000 jumbos in 1977, now has less than 50 per cent of that total and is thought to contribute the lion's share of poached ivory for sale.

The ivory trade is complex and is supposedly regulated by a 1986 international agreement signed by almost all the involved countries — the international convention on trade in endangered species (CITES).

CITES allowed 30,000 legal tusks to be traded in 1986 — a figure many conservationists regard as very high but at least a start. Figures for later years

have not yet been compiled.

Almost all legal ivory went to the world's two major carving centres in Hong Kong and Japan, where skilled hands turn it into expensive trinkets, pool and billiard balls, statuettes and piano keys. Smaller amounts go to workshops in China and India.

The illegal trade is now concentrated in the United Arab Emirates, experts say.

The tiny, landlocked Central African state of Burundi was the world centre for ivory smuggling from all its neighbours until a coup in September 1987.

Tanzania and Kenya ivory was trucked in, frequently in gasoline tankers which ply between Indian Ocean ports and Burundi and Rwanda. Ivory often flew out of Burundi, where the previous government actually taxed it at \$25 per kilo, via Addis Ababa to Macao and Singapore, where non-CITES-controlled ivory carving trade flourished.

Macao closed the trade in 1986. Singapore followed suit a year later in a deal with the Swiss-based CITES authorities that legalised 297 tons of mostly poached ivory for sale.

The new Burundi government has outlawed the illegal trade, putting pressure on East African poachers to find other routes. Container traffic out of Mozambique's Maputo, Tanzania's Dar Es Salaam and Kenya's Mombasa is certainly carrying poached ivory, experts say, but they are still trying to pin down the new

routes.

Almost all poached ivory goes to Dubai, which has watched on CITES and opened its doors wide following the closure of the illegal trade in the Far East.

Several factories have been established in Dubai, staffed by more than 50 expert carvers from the Far East and tooled up to machine the tusks quickly for perfectly legal exports of the finished product.

Dubai is now also the main world destination for poached rhino horn, conservationists say.

Experts worry that the flourishing business allowed in Dubai puts the whole legal trade and CITES in peril in the absence of international political action to stop it.

"I find it alarming that convention signatories are allowing the UAE to openly trade in ivory and export it when it is known that it is from illegal sources," said one expert.

"The sure sign of trouble is that tusks weights are down. Poachers are literally killing anything," he added.

At the other end of the trade, conservationists are appalled at the inadequate measures taken by cash-strapped East African wildlife departments to stop poaching at source.

Before the privately-funded East African Wildlife Society stepped in to help, wardens at Mount Elgon had eight jeeps. Six were off the road needing parts or tyres while 42 poached elephant carcasses littered the small reserve.

## Japan's whale trip — research or commerce?

By Anne Collier

TOKYO: Japan's controversial whale-research trip to the Antarctic is over, and the fleet is heading home. But the country's pro-whaling forces do not intend to stop making waves.

The Antarctic expedition that left Japan in December is scheduled to return to Tokyo port late this month, having caught nearly 300 minke whales.

Western conservationists and scientists say the trip's purpose was commercial. But Japanese whaling proponents say the trip was for research. They also say criticism of the expedition is yet another form of Western anti-Japanese sentiment.

"It's becoming a matter of national pride," said Junichiro Okamoto, deputy director of the Japanese Fishery Agency's Deep Sea Fishery Division.

He and other whaling proponents here point to Article 8 of the still-in-effect 1946 International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling. The article says International Whaling Commission (IWC) members are authorised to "kill, take, and treat whales" for scientific research purposes, and it is up to each member-government to decide on the numbers killed.

Proponents "We have been upholding the (convention) consistently all along, despite complaints we've had with it, yet other countries still put pressure on us," Mr Okamoto said. "The more the whaling problem becomes a racial or moral issue, the more the Japanese will be unwilling to accept it."

Kiyoo Tanahashi, owner of one of Tokyo's six popular restaurants that serve only whalemeat, echoed this sentiment. "Basically, I think this is a kind of prejudice against Japan," he said. Others call this criticism a type of "Japan-bashing."



Dinner at a Tokyo restaurant specialising in whalemeat cuisine. Customers now worry whether whalemeat is going to disappear from restaurants.

One reason so many whaling proponents here have come to this conclusion is because of the wide gulf between Western and Japanese views on whales. Whales are a renewable resource, say Japanese whaling advocates, including the government. Because whalemeat is "part of the national diet" — they want to utilise that resource.

Kunio Arai, chief of the Japan Whaling Association, said the IWC called a moratorium on commercial whaling in 1986 not because, as he put it, whales are beautiful or intelligent, but because more research was needed to determine if the numbers were high enough to continue commercial whaling.

"There was a lack of good information and some bias in research done before the moratorium decision. The bias was because research was done during commercial whaling trips and because only big

whales were caught and researched. So we have to get out of that uncertainty and gather more comprehensive data to know more about the populations," Arai said. The goal, he claimed, is informed population management.

But Hideo Obara, a mammalogy professor at Kagawa Nutrition College who is against whaling, says that research done by killing does not lead to population management. Rather, he says, the research done by Japanese scientists in the Antarctic Ocean destabilises the natural population. "It breaks up the groups they travel in and changes their living conditions. The research they're doing is not a population study; it's an industry study for utilisation."

Although he does not go along with Western claims that the Antarctic expedition was a commercial-whaling trip in research disguise, Dr Obara says, "No Japanese thinks that

scientific research is the only purpose of this expedition. The people know that it's for keeping the whaling industry alive."

The Japanese recently announced that they would do some fund raising for Japan's whaling research. The government says it can supply only \$2.8 million of the \$13.6 million budget for research planned for fiscal year 1988. The sale of whalemeat caught during the expedition will bring in \$4 million — not enough to defray the research costs. Another \$6.8 million will be raised from corporations and private individuals.

But the frequently asked question remains: Why do Japanese scientists say they have to kill the whales in order to do their research? They insist that truly reliable data can be obtained only through lethal research.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor.

Robin Gauldie

FEWER than 4,000 black rhino survive in all Africa. There are perhaps 200 more in zoos around the world. The temptations to become involved in poaching are enormous, for one horn may fetch more than many could hope to earn in a year: in the Middle East a horn dagger may fetch \$15,000.

Under such pressure, compounded by expanding human populations and shrinking wild environments, the black rhino which numbered tens of thousands fewer than 20 years ago is on the point of vanishing.

It is recognised that conventional conservation measures have failed. Facing ever more sophisticated poaching, security and protection forces have often been unable — and sometimes unwilling — to do their job. In many cases gamekeepers turn poacher: a senior member of the Kenya Department of Wildlife has published his view that one in three rhino poached in Kenya in the last decade have been shot by mem-

## Operation rhino rescue

bers of the department.

Only two populations of more than 600 black rhino survive. Both are in Zimbabwe whose tough game wardens now shoot to kill in skirmishes with heavily armed poachers. In Kenya, where black rhino scarcely total 500 — compared with more than 18,000 in 1970 — something like rhino rescue may be the only answer: of the country's three stable rhino populations two are on private ranches.

Nearly 100 live at Solio ranch on a 15,000-acre fenced sanctuary: the second largest group after that on the huge Tsavo reserve. Such fenced reserves are now seen as vital. Even if all the killing stopped, rhino in the wild are so solitary, so thinly spread and slow breeders — 16 to 18 months gestation — that their decline would continue. The government plans four sophisticated sanctuaries: at Nakuru, Nairobi, Aberdare, and Tsavo.

The Rhino Rescue appeal fund hopes to generate the £75,000 needed annually for Nakuru to maintain its 74 km of electrified fence and a strong force of guards.

At Sotheby's last year the appeal raised some £80,000 by auctioning such diverse donations as a luxury safari and a Ted Hughes manuscript poem. "If Solio fails," says the Rescue chairman, Maurice Coreth, "then it's goodbye to the rhino in Kenya." He admits Nakuru's electric fence with its alarms is more a psychological than physical barrier to the poachers, but he believes it will be a restraint.

But there is a less glamorous side to the struggle for the rhino's future, involving oot bullets or barbed wire but urine samples. At London's Institute of Zoology Dr Keith Hodges is developing a simple field test for rhino fertility, ovulation and pregnancy, which may be

crucial to the establishment of breeding cycle.

But while Rescue's fund-raising has gathered substantial sums, Dr Hodges's more modest project is in difficulties. Largely financed by a "completely unprecedented" grant of £18,000 from the chemical giant Hoechst over the last three years, his funding runs out this month. Two more years should see him through, and he believes he is only nine months away from a practical field test.

Such a breakthrough would help to avoid overcrowding and even treat infertility. The black rhino has not taken kindly to breeding in zoos, and the dwindling captive population is in no shape to buffer the wild one. Conservationists backing the sanctuary programme point to the recovery of the white rhino in South Africa. In the 1920s it was down to about 30 individuals; now there are about 3,000, proving recovery from the brink is possible.



Chimpanzee expert Dr Jane Goodall with a statue to be copied and sold to raise funds to preserve wildlife.

## AIDS research threatens chimpanzees

By Charles Clover

DR JANE GOODALL, the world's leading chimpanzee expert, said recently that demands by American AIDS researchers for thousands of wild chimpanzees for medical experiments could lead to the animal's extinction.

Dr Goodall, 54, who has spent most of the past 28 years in the Tanzanian bush studying chimpanzees, was launching a British brochure of the Jane Goodall Institute at the Royal Overseas Club in London.

Dr Goodall said that, according to the United States National Institutes for Health, whose chief scientist is leading AIDS researcher Dr Robert Gallo, thousands of wild

chimps would be needed at an increasing rate.

Chimpanzees, which now number 175,000 or less, are found in a band across Africa from the Ivory Coast to Tanzania and Uganda. Their first strongholds are Gabon, Cameroon and the Central African Republic.

In the West African countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone and the Ivory Coast, the chimps are recognised internationally as being "endangered," Dr Goodall said.

She viewed with alarm plans to set up laboratories in Africa to get round the international convention on the import of endangered species.

She and seven eminent medical scientists, led by Dr Jan Moor-Jankowski of New York

University, have written a report, to be published in a forthcoming issue of the magazine Nature, saying there are adequate supplies of chimps in captivity for research into hepatitis and AIDS.

Valuable What makes chimps valuable to researchers is their similarity to human beings. They are the only other species to develop type B hepatitis and are the only animals scientists have been able to inject with the AIDS virus with any degree of reliability.

American scientists working to combat AIDS in young children have received promising results from initial tests which indicate their lives can be prolonged and improved.

According to official figures

compiled by the US Centre for Disease Control, 981 American children have developed AIDS while the number infected is probably now more than 5,000.

Recent experiments on a group of 36 children aged between five months to 12 years has shown that the drug azidothymidine, or AZT, which has prolonged lives of adult AIDS victims, appears to be even more effective with children.

Child victims often have difficulty learning to speak and some are mentally retarded. Frequently they experienced delays in learning to sit up, crawl and walk. But researchers have found AZT can produce a dramatic change, even reversing some of the neurological problems.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALAN BRUCKHEIM

## CAUSE OF DERMATOMYOSITIS UNKNOWN

QUESTION: I've been diagnosed as having a weird disease called dermatomyositis. Please fill me in, and would you please discuss any ways of treating this disease?

ANSWER: Dermatomyositis is a disorder characterised by pain, redness, heat and swelling of deep muscle tissue accompanied by a surface rash. And in a way you're right to label it a "weird" disease because its symptoms are often dramatic and its cause is as yet unknown. Research indicates a strong link between its occurrence and immune reactions such as antigen/antibody activity present during infection, as well as a possible defect in the immune system itself. However, dermatomyositis often develops in conjunction with latent malignancies and other connective tissue diseases such as lupus and scleroderma (a hardening and scarring of tissue), and its particular symptoms are hard to isolate.

Clinically, four features tend to characterise the disorder: weakness in the muscles of the arms, legs, neck and respiratory system (with or without difficulty in swallowing); serum elevation of skeletal muscle enzymes; muscular degeneration identified by inserting electrodes confirmed by biopsy; and a

severe surface rash. The rule of thumb is to label the diagnosis definite when three or four of these criteria and the rash are present, and probable when two criteria plus a rash are present.

When only a probability of dermatomyositis exists, your physician will be alert to signs of other conditions which carry similar symptoms, such as other collagen vascular diseases, hyperthyroidism, trichinosis, drug reactions and muscular dystrophy. (Rash and muscle weakness in the joints are usually present in every case of confirmed dermatomyositis.)

Once an accurate diagnosis is made, prompt treatment can begin, because left untreated the disorder can injure the lungs, heart, esophagus, eyes, kidneys and joints. (The incidence of these complications is somewhat rare.)

Initially most patients are treated with corticosteroids, with prednisone the favourite because it is not only inexpensive but is less likely to cause further skin irritation. In fact, it can be injected directly into the joints or applied in creams, lotions and ointments to relieve the various types of rashes and papules which erupt. Adult

dosage usually is started at 50 to 100 milligrams a day and increased or decreased depending on degeneration or improvement of muscle strength, but we'll let your physician work out the best dosage schedule for your situation. The condition itself can last for as long as two to three years.

If the initial course of treatment is unsuccessful, plasmapheresis usually is attempted. This is a method of removing a quantity of plasma from the blood to filter out possible immune complexes or autoantibodies which might be interfering with the healing process.

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW: The number of questions that I received about anorexia nervosa assures me that today's information and support resource will be of real importance to many of you. Anorexia nervosa is an emotional disorder found primarily among young women who, despite the fact that they have dieted to the point of malnutrition, still see themselves as obese. They need help that includes psychotherapy, behaviour modification and, in some cases, even hospitalisation.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith







FORMER President Jimmy Carter and his wife wave from the speakers' podium at the Omni in Atlanta, site of the Democratic National Convention. (Reuter wirephoto)



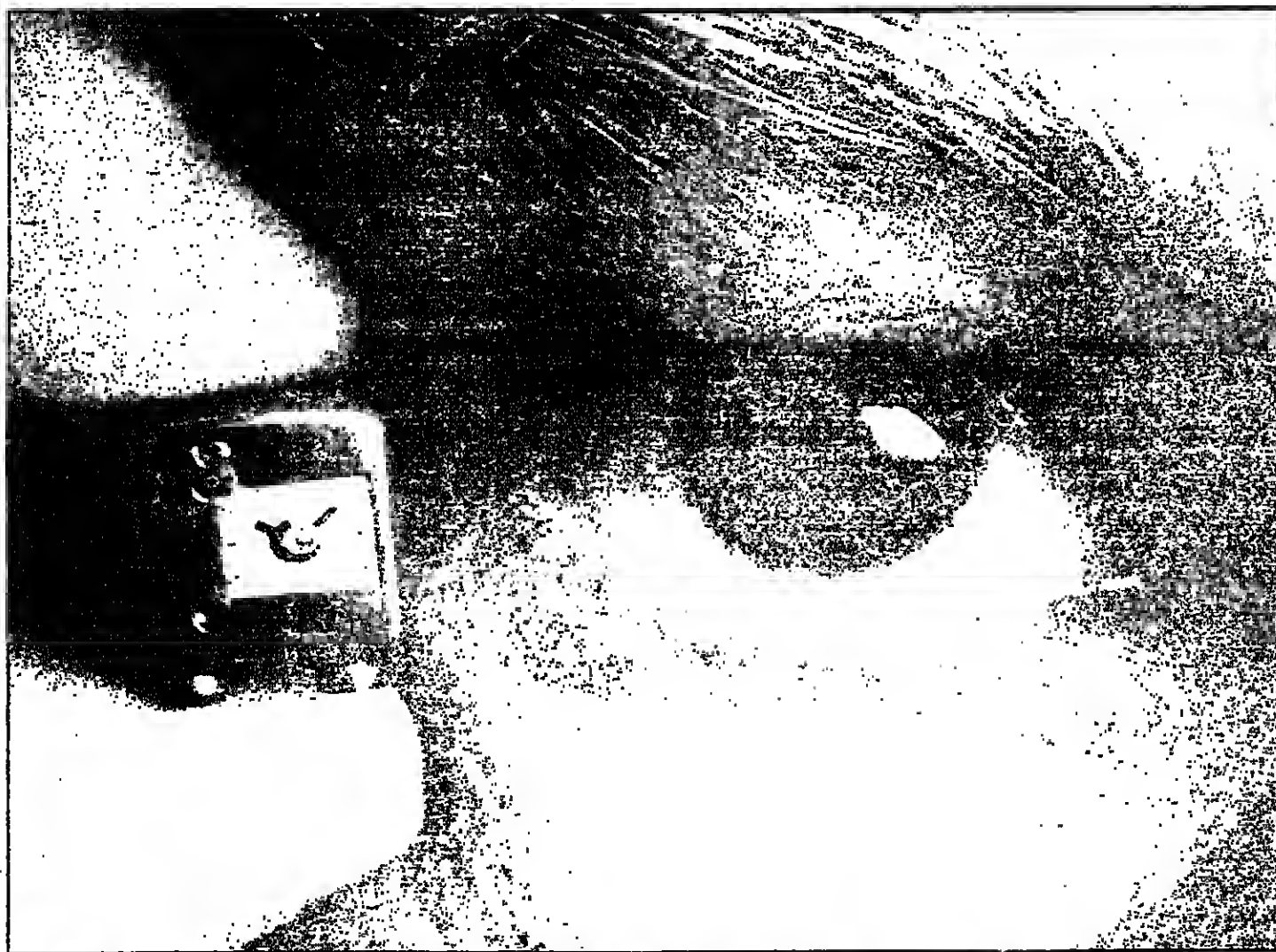
GREGORIO ROSAL (right), spokesman of a major communist rebel command, photographed in a mountain hideout in southern Luzon, asked President Corazon Aquino in a taped statement, to abandon her militarist policies before any peace talks could be held to end the Philippines' 19-year insurgency. At left is rebel military officer, Ke Bert. (Reuter wirephoto)



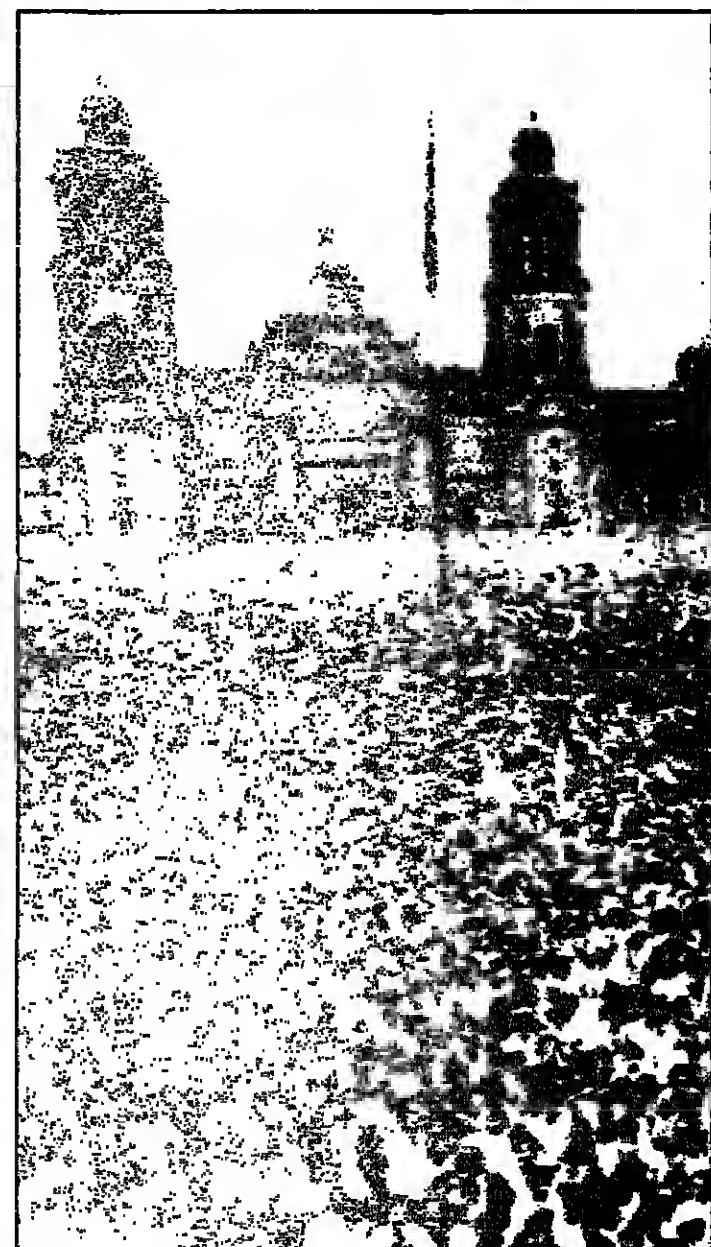
ICE hockey superstar Wayne Gretzky and his new bride Janet Jones wave to a crowd of onlookers as they leave St. Joseph's Basilica in Gretzky, Edmonton, yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



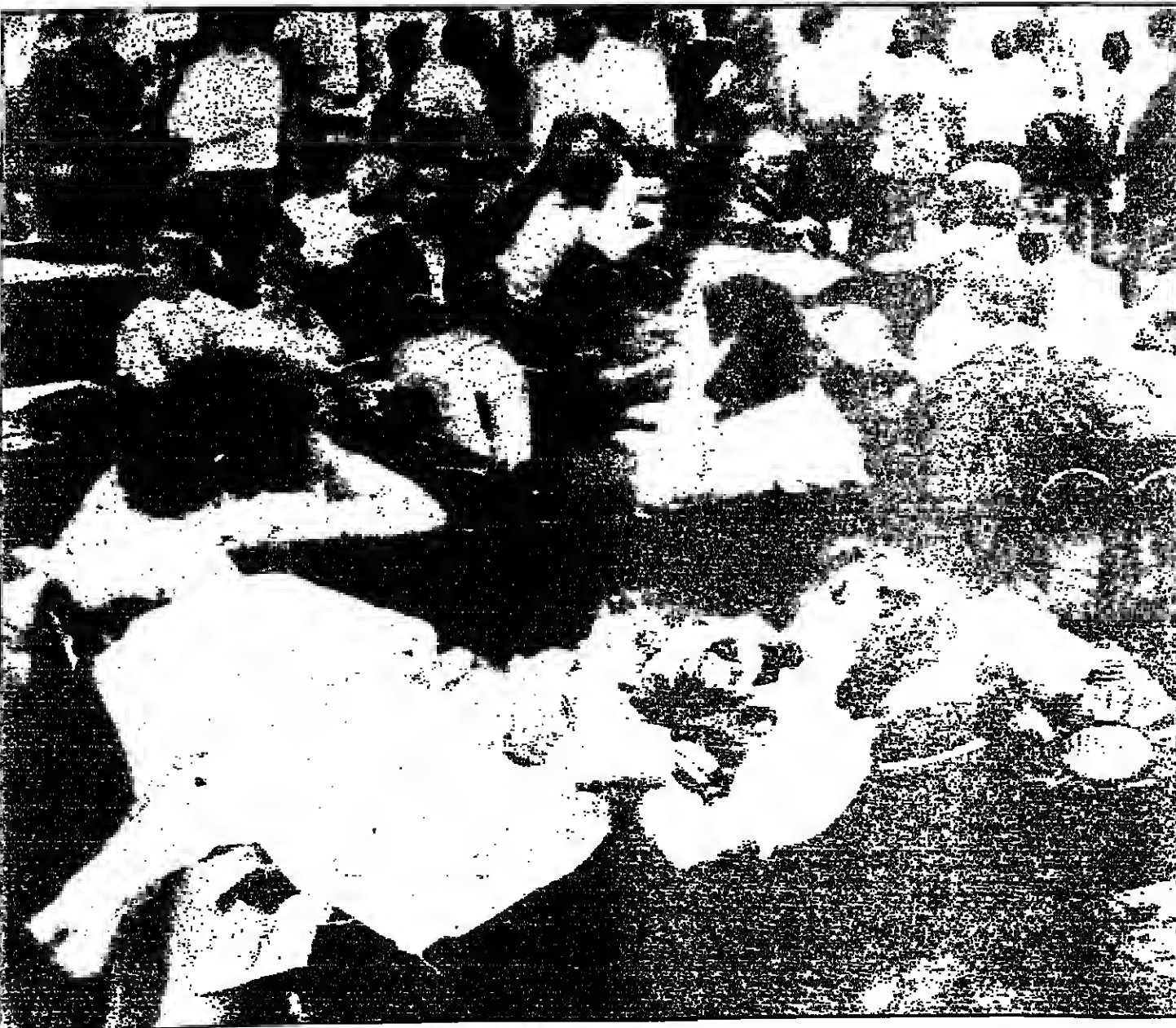
THE shuttle Discovery's right-side orbital manoeuvring system was moved into storage in February. A leak in Discovery's left-side pod, a mirror image of the one pictured here, could cause delays in its launch. (Reuter wirephoto)



SWISS clockmaker Fredy Swesa displays the world's smallest mechanical pendule clock which weighs 1.9 gramme. The clock is constructed with 150 components and has a height of 9.9 millimetres. (Reuter wirephoto)



ABOUT 300,000 supporters of opposition presidential candidate Cuauhtemoc Cardenas gathered in Mexico City to protest alleged fraud in the July 6 elections in which Cardenas finished second to official candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari. (Reuter wirephoto)



TRAVELLERS in a crowded Gatwick Airport take a nap as restrictions on the number of flights over Europe continue. About 3,000 people spent the night at the airport as a result of a dispute involving Greek air traffic controllers. (Reuter wirephoto)



POP megastar Michael Jackson presents the Prince and Princess of Wales with gifts including cassettes and specially made 'Bad' tour jackets before his third sellout concert in London on Saturday. (Reuter wirephoto)



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Short-term interest rates edging up in UK and W. Germany

## Dollar seems set to climb even higher

LONDON, July 17. (Reuters). The dollar, which shot up on Friday after better-than-expected US trade figures for May, seems set to climb higher in the coming weeks, currency experts and economists believe.

But their optimism is tempered by concerns about the impact of a dearer dollar on the stubbornly high American trade deficit in the longer term and on interest rates and inflation.

After an eight-per-cent rise against the West German mark and the Japanese yen over the past month, the dollar on Friday easily absorbed renewed joint

intervention by European central banks and the US Federal Reserve after the May trade deficit of \$10.93 billion was announced in Washington.

**Expectations**  
The April gap was \$10.3 billion and the May figure was below market expectations of up to \$11.5 billion.

"Close your eyes and buy the dollar," said Robert White, senior dealer at First Interstate Bank Ltd in New York.

The dollar ended in New York on Friday at 1.8805 marks and 135.45 yen, up half a penny and 0.2 yen on London's close and

more than 2.5 pfennigs and two yen up on Thursday night in New York.

Dealers said the dollar was at a crucial level which would determine whether it establishes a firmly higher trading range above 135 yen. Such higher ground would depend heavily on Japanese institutional investors' actions next week, they said.

"If the dollar can hold above 135 yen, it will send a very strong buying signal to long-term Japanese investors," said Adrian Warr, head of trading at Union Bank of Switzerland.

Dealers said the dollar had

also clearly entered a new, higher trading range against European currencies and might now be firmly in the 1.85 to 1.90 mark spread that prevailed 11 months ago. In early January in Tokyo, the dollar touched historic quoted lows of 120.20 yen and 1.5615 marks.

**Outlook**  
One ambiguous point about the outlook for the yen, dealers said, was the conspicuous absence throughout the current dollar rally of Bank of Japan intervention to sell dollars for yen.

A senior Japanese bank dealer

said Japanese investor selling was slowing the dollar's rise. An end to that selling would send the dollar higher, forcing the Bank of Japan into play.

The recent modest intervention by European central banks and the US Fed were seen by dealers as more a smoothing exercise.

**Reduction**  
Meanwhile, some senior US government economists have begun to question how long the US trade deficit could continue to improve if the dollar climbed much further.

"I'd be really surprised if we had a major reduction (in the trade deficit) with the dollar at these levels," one economist, who declined to be identified, said in Washington.

In Europe, some economists argue that rising US imports could start to sap the dollar's strength and help European central banks to ease their monetary policies.

But they still saw short-term interest rates edging up in Britain and West Germany this week to keep the lid on inflation. A stronger dollar feeds through into domestic and imports dearer.

### Seoul will not oppose friendly nations' trade with North

SEOUL, South Korea, July 17. (AP). Foreign Minister Choi Kwang-soo pledged today his nation would not oppose trade with North Korea and would not object to private companies from friendly nations trading with the North.

"I wish to reaffirm our willingness to take even more progressive measures if the North shows a positive response," Choi said in a statement.

The announcement was a follow-up to President Roh Tae-woo's call on July 7 for improved relations with North Korea. Roh said South Korea would help Pyongyang improve ties with its two major allies, the United States and Japan.

North Korea at the time dismissed Roh's declaration as "nothing new."

**Links**  
Choi said the United States and Japan may open trade links with North Korea as long as they do not involve military goods, which are regulated by the coordinating committee for export control, a Western body that oversees export of sensitive items to the communist bloc, he said.

Choi also said the government would not object if the United States and Japan lifted sanctions limiting contacts between their diplomats and North Korean diplomats at social functions and other neutral settings.

The South Korean allies imposed the diplomatic sanctions early this year after North Korea was implicated in the bombing of a South Korean airliner near Burma in November. All 115 people on board were killed.

A woman claimed to plant the bomb as a North Korean agent, but Pyongyang denied involvement.

On Friday, South Korea proposed exchanging student visits with North Korea and co-sponsoring college sports games. Pyongyang officials refused to receive the letter containing the proposals.

### US industrial production up

WASHINGTON, July 17. (AP). Production at US factories, mines and utilities rose a moderate 0.4 per cent in June, the ninth consecutive month without a decline, the government said yesterday.

The government said that the June increase pushed industrial output 5.8 per cent higher than it was a year ago. Industrial production had posted identical 0.5 per cent gains in both April and May.

The June advance reflected in part a big jump in production of electricity, primarily for air conditioning to combat a summer heat wave. Output at US utilities surged 2.6 per cent following a 0.9 per cent increase in May.

**Gains**  
The report said the increase last month reflected solid gains in all major components except construction, mining and farm equipment.

Manufacturing firms saw production rise a modest 0.2 per cent in June, reflecting a 0.3 per cent increase at factories making durable goods, items expected to last three or more years, and a smaller 0.1 per cent rise in production of non-durable goods. The non-durable category was held back by declines in textile and paper production.

Autos were assembled at an annual rate of 7.5 million units in June, unchanged from May. Production of light trucks, while still at a high level, edged down slightly last month.

Output in the mining industry, a category which includes oil and gas drilling, rose 0.6 per cent in June, partially reversing a 1.4 per cent drop in May.

### Acceptable solutions still eluding policymakers

## Debt crisis is sending out fresh political tremors

WASHINGTON, July 17. (Reuters). The global debt crisis, ignited almost six years when Mexico ran into deep financial difficulties, is sending out fresh political tremors and broadly acceptable solutions are still eluding policymakers.

With debt a major domestic political issue in Mexico, the loss by the ruling party there earlier this month of its virtual electoral hammerlock on the country stunned Latin American experts, who now see political change spreading in the region.

The disputed Mexican election appears to have substantially reduced the grip of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and handed its presidential candidate, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the poorest showing in the movement's 59-year history.

"While the political fallout of the (July) elections cannot yet be foretold, there is now much less likelihood that the new Mexican government will maintain both economic reform and full debt

financing," Harvard University debt expert Jeffrey Sachs told a congressional subcommittee in Washington last week.

He said the current debt strategy, including Treasury Secretary James Baker's 1985 initiative providing incentives for countries to seek market-oriented solutions, "is causing a radicalisation and polarisation of Latin American politics."

Sachs and others believe the economic reality of Latin America is that several states, including Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador, will never pay a large portion of their debt.

This is again raising the spectre that has stalked the debt crisis since it began—the formation of a debtors' organisation. Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez last week urged Latin American debtor nations to take a common stand in seeking easier debt repayment terms.

"We should do what the industrialised nations do: agree upon a

policy that strengthens our negotiating power—and that's what we are going to do," he said.

Perez, among the front-runners in the upcoming presidential elections in Venezuela, added: "When I become president, the conditions will be ripe for applying these policies."

Such statements, which experts take increasingly seriously, seem to reject Reagan administration beliefs that a payments moratorium or unified action by the debtors are highly unlikely.

US officials maintain Brazil's decision to stop making interest payments last year failed as a debt policy, prompting it to resume paying interest and to swallow economic reforms hampered out with the International Monetary Fund.

In hindsight, the debt crisis was predictable and preventable, experts agree. It surfaced full blown in August 1982 when Mexico said its financial reserves had reached a critically low level

and that it needed help.

Simply put, feeling flush because of vast new discoveries of oil, the country went on a development binge using money borrowed from commercial banks.

When oil prices were soaring, the debt did not seem to pose a problem, but when they turned lower, Mexico found its economy far out on a limb.

Mexico was not alone in having dug itself an economic hole. Since 1982, the economic fortunes of the whole of Latin America, although ebbing and flowing, have drifted lower and countries have found it harder to manage their debt-bloated economies.

Experts, with one eye on the Mexican election, believe more debt-fed political turmoil is ahead in Latin America with voters turning increasingly to the more radical political elements.

They see growing evidence that a new debt initiative is badly needed and that without it Latin

America could become more leftist or turn to military rule for stability.

"As a result of six years of these pressures, we have saved the (commercial) banks, but are losing the countries," says Harvard's Sachs.

Solutions, however, are not easy to come by.

Suggestions being tossed back and forth include new loans with US government or World Bank guarantees, types of bonds or annuities that carry no initial interest cost, and the formation of a new international corporation funded by creditor countries.

"I can think of no public policy issue which deserves attention greater than the international debt crisis, and yet, probably because the definition of the problem comes from so many different constituencies, often conflict with each other, it is no wonder that a solution is not forthcoming," said Eugene Rotberg of Merrill Lynch and Co.

## UK banks' expected gains may not be easily sustained

LONDON, July 17. Most British commercial banks are expected to show strong profit growth in first-half earnings reports this month, but the results could be just a pleasant peak in a gloomy landscape, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Bank analysts and economists say profits were enhanced by an improvement in the Third World debt situation and continued strong growth in domestic lending. Big provisions against loans to countries with payment difficulties are gone, and first-half lending this year is up an average 19 per cent.

But observers caution that the debt crisis could erupt again, and the government's attempt to control the domestic credit boom might hurt bank profit later.

Also, banks will soon face increased competition from Britain's building societies, the rough equivalent of savings and loan associations in the US. Building societies recently were allowed to expand out of their traditional mortgage lending role into unsecured consumer lending and a wide range of financial services.

**Picture**  
This year "could be the watershed" for banks, says Terry Smith, a bank analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the merchant bank subsidiary of Barclays PLC.

Michael Leaver, a bank analyst at brokerage Smith New Court Agency Ltd., says 1988 presents "a fairly encouraging picture (but) there could be some

squeeze" next year.

National Westminster Bank PLC leads off banks' interim reporting season July 26. Expectations for its pretax profit for the first half range from £665 million (\$1.13 billion) to £690 million (\$1.17 billion). Last year, the bank reported first-half pretax profit of £251 million.

Midland Bank PLC reports the next day and is expected to post pretax profit of £305 million to £330 million. Midland last year reported a £321 million loss, including its provisions for problem loans.

**Profit**  
Barclays PLC is expected July 28 to show pretax profit of £382 million to £410 million, against a pre-tax loss of £40 million for the first half last year.

Lloyds Bank PLC is expected July 29 to declare pre-tax profit of £430 million to £480 million, against last year's first-half pre-tax loss of £697 million.

Direct comparisons with 1987's first half are difficult because of massive provision increases last year. Without additions to provisions, Natwest's pre-tax profit would have been £688 million for 1987's first half. Midland's would have been £251 million, Barclays' £530 million and Lloyds' £369 million.

Additions to reserves for Third World loans are expected to have been minimal this year. Leaver of Smith New Court expects small increases in provisions for Argentinian loans

because of that country's deteriorating economy. But Martin Cross, an analyst at Warburg Securities, says banks may opt to cover the additions by reducing their Brazilian provisions.

Analysts say first-half results should include five months of Brazilian interest payments that will particularly help Lloyds and Midland. Brazil recently reached a tentative \$62 billion debt rescheduling accord with its creditor banks and has resumed interest payments that were suspended in February 1987.

Analysts say the resumption of Brazilian interest payments should add about £25 million each to the pre-tax profit of Lloyds and Midland for the first half, and about £10 million to Barclays and £8 million to Natwest.

**Debt**  
The improved debt situation will allow earnings from greater domestic lending to directly affect banks' profit, analysts said.

Analysts are expecting banks to offer generous dividends. Leaver expects Lloyds to boost its interim dividend by about 20 per cent from 4.6 pence a share a year ago, Natwest by about 17 per cent from eight pence, and Barclays and Midland by about 12 pence each from a pro-rata 9 and 8.6 pence, respectively. Barclays' and Midland's dividends were 10.5 pence and 11.5 pence a year ago, but each has had rights issues since.

## Australia introduces plastic currency

SYDNEY, Australia, July 17. (AP). Australian experts have tortured the nation's new plastic money by dunking it in ketchup, stretching it to the breaking point and burying it underground.

It passed very well, the experts say. So this month, Australia is putting plastic currency into circulation.

Plastic money has failed before in Australia and elsewhere when it turned out to be too flimsy. But Australia now thinks it has the right formula, and that it could eventually make an export industry of manufacturing plastic currency for other countries.

**Purposes**  
The first plastic bills will be for 10 dollars Australian (\$8). Petr McWilliam, spokesman for Australia's Reserve Bank, says the bills have the same thickness and feel of traditional cotton-fibre money but are slightly

more resistant to folding.

"To all intents and purposes, it behaves like paper, but it's more durable," McWilliam said.

The Reserve Bank withdrew an earlier version from circulation and improved it before releasing the latest version on July 8 to commemorate the bicentennial of European colonisation.

**Version**

To thwart counterfeiters, the bills include an "optically variable device"—which, like a hologram, refracts a rainbow of colours as light strikes it from different angles. The device, an oval on an upper corner, features an image of Capt. James Cook, the British explorer who claimed large tracts of Australia for England in 1770.

The Royal Australian Mint will release the new 10-dollar note for general circulation later

this month, but Australians already have been lining up to pay a 40-per-cent premium for a collector's version.

Created by graphic designer Harry Williamson, the 10-dollar note looks at Australian history both before and after European settlement.

One side depicts an Aborigine covered with body paint and accompanied by cultural artifacts. The other side features a ship from the first fleet, which arrived with English prisoners in 1788, and subsequent immigrants who settled Australia.

**Expenses**

Development of the plastic bills has cost roughly 20 million dollars (\$16 million) and included years of tests considering every aspect from counterfeiting protection to cleanliness, McWilliam said.

## Yugoslavia must seek long-term inflation remedies: OECD

PARIS, July 17. (Reuters). Yugoslavia must find long-term remedies for its soaring inflation rate or face the prospect of seeing major economic reforms fail, the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) said today.

"The highest policy priority must... be attached to lowering the unmanageably high rate of underlying inflation more permanently," the Paris-based economic forum said in its latest report on the socialist state.

A price freeze between last November and May cut the inflation rate from a 1987 peak of 250 per cent to 90 per cent.

But Belgrade said last week it had surged back to 175.5 per cent in June and Yugoslav Prime Minister Branko Mikulic forecast a further deterioration this month.

**Package**  
In May, Mikulic launched a major economic austerity package which curbed wages, public spending and investment but freed prices and imports. With the second currency devaluation in six months, he also cut the dinar's value by about 19 per cent.

The May reform programme should help alter these inflation expectations and boost price-dampening competition, the OECD said in the report based on data available up to early May.

"The new economic programme introduced in May should greatly help in both respects, as it links wages, public spending and credit expansion to targeted rather than actual inflation, and will enhance the

role of market forces by liberalising prices, imports and foreign exchange regulation," it said.

But it warned: "Without a lasting reduction of inflation, a return to sustainable faster growth cannot be realised. Attempts to cure inflationary symptoms by resorting to short-term measures, without at the same time taking determined and bold action to tackle the roots of the problem, might even aggravate the situation."

Mikulic said last week that as many as two million workers could lose their jobs as a result of firms going out of business under current austerity measures.

**Rises**  
He also warned the economic situation could deteriorate further in coming months and predicted "new social turmoils" caused by continuing price rises.

The OECD said the government has so far failed to break strong expectations among Yugoslavs that prices will keep spiralling. "The inflationary process has assumed a powerful momentum of its own," it said.

Measures to boost competition both at home and abroad should benefit the country in the long term.

Measures to boost competition both at home and abroad should benefit the country in the long term.

"Yugoslavia is too small a country for even limited self-sufficiency, the more so if the transfer of international technology is taken into account," the 24-nation, Paris-based agency said. "Protection against imports means protecting internationally inefficient producers."

## North Sea oil exploration goes on despite disaster

ABERDEEN, Scotland, July 17. (Reuters). The fire on the North Sea Piper Alpha oil platform which killed 166 people should not deter further offshore exploration, senior British Energy Minister Peter Morrison said today.

"The offshore industry must believe there is oil and gas to be discovered, and worth investing in," he told reporters after visiting the Morcambe Bay gasfield.

**Measures**  
Morrison said he was impressed by safety measures and discipline in the field where workers' accommodation is separate from operational platforms.

His comments came amid fears about safety procedures by offshore workers since blasts ripped through Piper Alpha on July 6.

## World Business Summary

### Kuwaiti economy grew 5pc in '87, says study

KUWAIT'S economy, boosted by higher world oil prices, expanded last year for the first time since 1984, the Central Bank said yesterday.

Its 1987 economic report said gross domestic product (GDP) the total value of goods and services produced, grew five per cent over 1986. Non-oil GDP grew three per cent and the oil sector 8.4 per cent, the report said.

Kuwaiti officials say the economy is emerging from a recession triggered by the 1982 crash of the local Souk Al-Manakh stock market and fall in world oil prices. Oil exports climbed 13.3 per cent last year over 1986 to KD2.1 billion (\$7.4 billion) after efforts by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to boost world prices, the report said. Another factor that prompted growth was a government-backed bad debt scheme that began to reschedule non-performing bank loans interest rates from the 1982 crash. The report also cited lower interest rates introduced by the Central Bank in March 1987. It said the reflagging of oil tankers last year, which led to a huge foreign naval build-up in the Gulf, had helped to secure Kuwait's vital oil exports. "Tension in the Gulf did not significantly reduce the size of Kuwait oil exports in 1987," the Central Bank said.

The report showed a revival in the trade, real estate and construction sectors. Inflation in 1987 declined to 0.6 per cent from one per cent in 1986, it added.

### Economy is in fine fettle, says World Bank official

INDIA'S economic performance continues to be good despite a serious drought last year, according to Attila Karasmanoglu, vice president of the World Bank's Asia region. Speaking to journalists in Washington recently, Karasmanoglu noted that there has been a significant upsurge in industrial growth in India, with production increases in manufacturing averaging about 9 per cent a year over the past three years. The success is attributable to progress in industrial policy, where several measures have been implemented to improve efficiency and export promotion, he explained. But similar policy reforms are needed to sustain or accelerate the country's recent growth pattern of about 5 per cent a year. So far, he pointed out, this growth has been sustained with relative macroeconomic stability. Inflation rates have been moderate and the resource balance and current account deficit have been kept to levels that could be financed without endangering long-term creditworthiness. The improved economic performance, along with government interventions, has decreased the relative incidence of poverty in India. Still, he warned, the number of poor people remains very large. The immediate economic outlook for the country is good, Karasmanoglu said, but progress will depend on good weather and the government's commitment to implementing sound economic policies and management. Karasmanoglu expressed support for the government's efforts to contain the public sector deficit, adding that the current commitment to further deregulation of the domestic economy is necessary to increase efficiency.

### Aluminium smelter studies 180,000 tonne expansion

BAHRAIN, July 17. (Reuters). A Bahrain firm said today it was considering increasing its aluminium smelting capacity, by 180,000 tonnes a year, the latest in a flurry of projects to expand production in the Gulf. A spokesman for Aluminium Bahrain (ALBA) said the increase would be in addition to the current 580 million tonne production programme to boost capacity to 725,000 tonnes a year from the current 180,000. He said several companies had submitted proposals for a feasibility study and a contract would be awarded soon. The study is due to be finished by the end of the year. Production would be increased either by expanding the existing smelter or by building a second, the spokesman said. The expansion would be the latest in a series of new smelters proposed by investors lured to the Gulf by cheap power and abundant capital. Earlier this month a private Saudi group invited investors to help build a \$750 million, 240,000 tonne per year smelter in the Red Sea industrial city of Yanbu.

### Caracas hopes to become major gold producer

CARACAS, July 17. (OPECNA). Venezuela plans to become a leading producer of gold, exporting about 250 tonnes a year by the end of the century, according to a government official. Leopoldo Suarez Siguereña, president of Corporacion Venezolana de Guayana, a government agency responsible for the development of eastern Venezuela, told reporters that Venezuela could achieve its gold export goal because it had proven reserves of 8,000 tonnes in El Callao area, about 800 km east of the capital. He said recoverable reserves were estimated to be worth about \$45 million worth of the metal. This year, the figure is expected to reach 300 million.

Venezuela plans to seek technical assistance from specialized American companies in its gold exploration programme.

### Bond issue will have beneficial effect on local market: Hamar

ABU DHABI, July 17. (KUNA). The UAE Central Bank has proposed that the government should issue financial bonds as the way of cutting the federal budget deficit. Abdul Malek Al Hamar, UAE Central Bank Governor in an interview with Khaleej Times published today, said that he believed the issue of bonds would have a beneficial effect on the local market. "Issuing of bonds is one of the several measures now being considered as a response to the deficit which has been caused by the fall of oil income," Hamar said. As a result of the dwindling oil revenue, the UAE has been facing deficit in the federal budget, for the past few years, Hamar added.

The governor warned banks to be cautious in extending credit and dismissed criticism that too many controls were hampering some banks from expansion. "Whatever controls the Central Bank has required the banks to comply with are meant to safeguard the banking system in the country," he said.

### Ghana boosts gold output

GHANA will increase gold production and earn more foreign exchange through a project that will help rehabilitate the State Gold Mining Corporation (SGMC), strengthen the Minerals Commission and the Ministry of Land and Natural Resources and make small-scale mining operations more efficient. IDA is supporting the project with a credit of SDR 29.3 million (\$40 million), according to World Bank News.

Ghana's mining sector generates almost a fifth of the country's export earnings and employs about 24,000 people. Gold accounts for more than four-fifths of the total value of mineral exports. The government is aware of the economic potential of the mining sector and is giving high priority to upgrading and expanding operations. The \$210 million project includes measures to increase gold production and reduce safety hazards at SGMC's, SGMC, Ghana Consolidated Diamonds and Ghana National government policies aimed at encouraging greater private sector participation in mining. Mineral exploration will be carried out and gold prospects will be promoted to potential investors. Small-scale mining operations will be improved through technical assistance.



## CURRENCY & BUSINESS

### UK industrial production rises

# US interest rates will continue to move higher

ON balance the markets throughout the week waited in anticipation of the trade numbers on Friday. However, prior to their release the dollar continued to push upwards despite intervention, particularly by the Bundesbank and other European banks.

The release of the number at deficit \$10.9 billion was considered to be better than the markets expectations and hence saw a period of frenetic trading to bring the US unit to over DM1.87 and Y135.

In his testimony chairman of the Federal Reserve, Greenspan, warned of the need to guard against the dangers of an inflationary spiral and made strong representations for a further reduction in the Federal budget deficit.

Retail sales rose 0.5 per cent equivalent to \$713 million in June to a seasonally adjusted \$132.8 billion and was 5 per cent above the corresponding period in 1987. Excluding autos, the June figure was up just 0.3 per cent compared with a revised 0.6 per cent in May. Auto sales increased 1.2 per cent in May after a 0.8 per cent decline the previous month.

Producer price index increased 0.4 per cent in June compared with a seasonally adjusted increase of 0.5 per cent in May. The seasonally adjusted annual rate for the first six months this year now represents 3.6 per cent and compares with 2.2 per cent a year ago.

Merchandise trade increased to a seasonally adjusted deficit of \$10.9 billion for May compared

with \$10.3 billion for the month before.

Merchandise exports increased in May by 2.3 per cent to \$26.6 billion on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Business inventories increased by 0.6 per cent in May to \$4.4 billion. This followed a 0.5 per cent rise in inventories during April.

**Indication**

Greenspan's comments can undoubtedly be interpreted as an indication of the Federal Reserve's interest in stemming any inflationary tendencies. Given that the economy is far stronger than originally anticipated at the beginning of the year and the dollar's rebound suggests that interest rates will continue to move higher. We, therefore, continue to expect rises over the entire interest rate spectrum with Fed funds moving higher and to a point which will provoke a discount rate increase.

Present market sentiment with respect to the dollar continues to be exceedingly positive with the better than anticipated trade numbers adding to this psychology. We continue to expect little change with the dollar forging further ahead.

To some extent its rate of rise will be capped by further substantial intervention by central banks from both sides of the Atlantic.

However, trading ranges for the coming week must be on the upside of current dollar levels.

Sterling continued to suffer against the weakness of the US dollar with funds moving strongly into the US unit. However, on

the cross rate, sterling managed to hold its own and remained around DM3.11. To a large extent this represented the DM's present market weakness.

Interest rates have remained relatively unaffected with economic numbers coming in on balance slightly conflicting; whilst wage settlements appear to be edging lower, unemployment numbers and manufacturing levels continue to indicate an exceedingly buoyant economy.

Average earnings increased an underlying 8.5 per cent in May on a seasonally adjusted basis following a revised downward revision for April's figure of 0.25 per cent to 8.5 per cent.

Unemployment fell to 8.4 per cent in June representing a monthly decline of 38,900 to current 2.38 million. The May figure stood at 8.6 per cent.

Industrial production rose 0.6 per cent in May increasing 1.1 per cent over the three months to stand at 3.5 per cent above that of a year ago.

**Pressures**

Manufacturing output rose more steeply, increasing by 1.7 per cent in three months and 6.4 per cent over the year.

Retail price index increased in June by 0.4 per cent representing a yearly rise of 4.6 per cent. This compares with a year on year rise to May of 4.2 per cent.

Inflationary concerns continued to dominate both the credit and the foreign exchange markets. With retail prices continuing to increase currently at 4.6 per cent, this has prompted official

announcements by Chancellor Nigel Lawson, that government policy will be directed to curb excessive inflationary and liquidity pressures.

As a consequence we continue to anticipate that whilst an imminent base rate increase may not be likely further base rate hikes are set for the future in line with an international upward "ratchet" in rates. Credit markets will be correspondingly negatively affected. However, it would appear that the equity market recognises that policy requirement to control an overheated economy — with the current account moving into severe deficit — and therefore for the immediate future the market is likely to continue its present modest advance.

**Growth**

Sterling continues to be vulnerable to the underlying economic fundamentals, notably the current account deficit and is arguably maintaining its parity against the DM on the German unit's present weakness and the widening interest rate differential.

These factors are likely to continue to underpin sterling for the immediate future. However, in the longer term we continue to anticipate that the market will remain fragile with sterling's downside risks now possibly exceeding any upside potential. Although further base rate increases will undoubtedly attract large short-term foreign interest.

We continue to anticipate that the Bundesbank will be looking

to increase interest rates in the near future. Further rises in the discount rate from 3 per cent and the securities repurchase agreements "repos" rate which stands at 3.75 per cent are expected. With modest economic growth the German authorities policy once again centres on potential inflationary concerns with the DM's weakness possibly fuelling prices upwards. With the money supply continuing to proceed well outside of the 3-6 per cent target range, and the dollar's recent strength, the Bundesbank is likely to take the opportunity to increase interest rates.

Japan's trade surplus narrowed by more than 13 per cent in June to \$5.9 billion, compared with \$6.6 billion a year ago. Exports rose by 17 per cent however this was more than offset by imports which increased 32 per cent over the same period. However, Japan still has an overall trade surplus for the first six months of this year of \$33.6 billion which compares with \$40 billion a year ago.

The growth of the nominal money supply (M2 and CD's) in May was 11.4 per cent year on year. With exceptionally high economic growth and the dollar's strength the Bank of Japan has refocused policy on monetary concerns and inflationary fears. Hence we anticipate as elsewhere a tightening in credit policy.

Provided by National Bank of Kuwait's Weekly Market Report

## KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.880	0.900	0.900	0.890	175000	6
GULF BANK	0.395	0.390	0.390	0.390	190000	10
COMMERCIAL BK	0.285	0.290	0.290	0.280	710000	29
ARAB BANK	0.370	0.365	0.370	0.365	440000	23
B.K.M.E	0.380	---	---	---	---	---
K.R.E.B.	0.430	---	---	---	---	---
BURDAN BANK	0.285	0.280	0.290	0.280	820000	42
K.F.HOUSE	0.455	0.450	0.455	0.450	360000	9
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KWT INV. CO.	0.176	0.176	0.178	0.176	200000	5
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.L.C.	0.170	0.174	0.180	0.174	1700000	47
COM. FACILITIES	0.465	---	---	---	---	---
AMTIAN INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.100	---	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KWT	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	20000	1
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KWT INSURANCE	0.680	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.340	---	---	---	---	---
AMTIAN INS. CO.	0.540	---	---	---	---	---
WARRA INS. CO.	0.435	---	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KWT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.224	0.226	0.226	0.226	40000	2
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	120000	2
WAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.206	0.208	0.208	0.206	40000	2
SAHIAH R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
KWT PROJECTS	0.087	---	---	---	---	---
KWT R.E.I. CON	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
KWT IND. CO.	0.500	---	---	---	---	---
KWT M.P. IND.	0.290	---	---	---	---	---
KWT CEMENT CO.	0.240	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.405	---	---	---	---	---
N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	1.020	---	---	---	---	---
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
CONT. MARINE	0.350	---	---	---	---	---
K.S.H. REP. CO.	0.042	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.079	---	---	---	---	---
K.M.C. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
KWT HOTELS CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	---
P. WAREHOUSING	0.174	0.174	0.176	0.174	100000	4
CON. MTK. CHPK.	0.020	0.019	0.020	0.019	4000000	12
MOBILE TELE.	0.395	0.395	0.395	0.395	90000	3
KWT COMPUTER	0.184	0.180	0.182	0.180	80000	4
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.222	40000	2
UNTD FISHERIES	0.154	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.228	---	---	---	---	---
KWT FOODS	0.305	---	---	---	---	---
AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KWT SECTOR						
B.H.M. INTER. BK	0.067	0.067	0.068	0.067	120000	2
B.H.M. EAST. BK	0.043	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD. GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	1860000	21
A.G. INV. CORP	0.035	---	---	---	---	---
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.I.G.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---

## AMMAN

ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	OPNG	CLSG
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.20	1.19
ARAB BANK	1.63	1.61
ARAB CHEMICAL OTER	112.5	111.0
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	3.96	3.96
ARAB INSURANCE	1.37	1.36
ARAB INT. INV. TRAD.	0.94	0.96
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.98	0.98
ARAB JOR. INVEST. BKS	0.53	0.58
ARAB PAPER CON/IND	2.10	2.10
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	0.94	0.94
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	1.76	1.75
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.20	15.00
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CATRO AMMAN BANK	28.50	28.50
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.46	0.46
DAR ALADMA DV/INV.	1.54	1.52
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.52	0.52
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.60	0.58
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	3.65	3.55
GENERAL INVESTMENT	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.25	1.25
GENERAL MINING.	1.31	1.31
HUMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.26	1.25
IND. MATCH JEMCO	0.63	0.62
INDUSTRIAL DEVLPT BKS	1.56	1.59
INDUSTRIAL/COMM/AGR.	1.21	1.21
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTER. CON/INV	0.21	0.20
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.85	0.85
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.19	1.18
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	14.35	14.50
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.20	1.20
JOR ELECT. INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR EAGLE POWER	1.53	1.53
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	0.94	0.95
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	0.98	0.97
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.59	1.55
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.61	0.60
JOR LIM BRICK	0.22	0.22
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.53	2.53
JOR PAPER CARDBOG	3.12	3.15
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.52	2.51
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.21	1.24
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.00	2.15
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.00	4.05
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.60	0.60
JOR SECURIT CORP	0.77	0.76
JOR SHELPHO CHEN.	2.56	2.55
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.12	1.09
JOR WORSTED MLL	4.55	4.55
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00	1.00
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.35	7.35
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.20	5.30
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	2.00	2.04
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.33	0.32
JORDAN OILTRY	0.99	0.99
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.25	1.25
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	15.85	13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC BKS	1.77	1.75
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.44	1.45
JORDAN TANNING	2.01	2.01
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.70	0.70
MACH/COU/RENT/MAIN	0.79	0.78
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.60
MIDDEL EAST INS	60.00	60.00
MIDDEL EAST INS.	0.60	0.55
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.80	1.80
NAT. CABEL/WIRE/MF	1.00	0.99
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.30	1.27
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.38	0.38
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.72	0.71
NATIONAL STEEL	2.63	2.60
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	1.93	1.92
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.82	0.82
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.48	0.48
SHIPPING LINES	0.87	0.87
SPINNING WEAVING	0.76	0.76
THE HOUSING BANK	1.83	1.83
UNITED INSURANCE	0.96	0.95
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.50	1.46
UNIVERSAL INS.	1.19	1.23
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.70	0.71
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.10	1.10

## Interest Rates

Period	Offered	Bid
1 month	5-3/4	6-1/16
3 months	6-1/16	6-3/8
6 months	6-1/4	6-9/16
1 year	6-3/8	6-11/16

## KD rates ease in quiet trading

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates eased in quiet trading yesterday as government salary payments entered the market and boosted liquidity.

Rates had firmed marginally on Saturday after the dinar slipped to 11-month lows against the dollar, encouraging banks to build up dollar positions.

But dealers said there was little activity yesterday, with international markets shut. The Central Bank as usual kept its dinar exchange rate unchanged from Saturday at 0.28383/93 to the dollar, while commercial bank spot quotes eased marginally to around 0.28391/401 from Saturday's 0.28390/95.

**Highs**

Overnight business was at one per cent after five per cent highs on Saturday, while tomorrow's next traded at two per cent.

One-week funds were quoted at five per cent after five per cent deals on Saturday.

Two-week deposits from July 27, when Kuwaiti banks are due to reopen after a five-day Muslim religious holiday, dealt at 4-5/8 and five per cent.

One-month quotes slipped to 5-3/4 1/4 from six 5-3/4 per cent, but other fixed-periods were largely unchanged at 6-1/4, 5-7/8 per cent for the two-month, 6-1/4, six per cent for the three-month and 6-1/2, 1/4 per cent for the six-month maturity.

Meanwhile, fixed-maturity Saudi deposit rates yesterday remained at their highest levels since October as banks squared positions before the Muslim Eid Al Adha holiday beginning next week.

Dealers reported activity only in tomorrow-next and the so-called 'Eid-run' extending through August 3. Clearing ends for the holiday on July 19 and resumes August 1, they said.

Demand for riyals traditionally soars before the Eid holiday as hundreds of thousands of Muslims enter Saudi Arabia to make the pilgrimage to Makkah. Dealers expected liquidity to return to the market at the end of the holiday.

The Eid-run rose 1/2 point on the bid side to 10, 9-1/2 per cent. Tomorrow-next was quoted at 10-1/2, 10 per cent.

## Nigeria gingerly moves to shed government stake in economy

LAGOS, July 17. (Reuters): Nigeria's military rulers have introduced new free-wheeling economic policies they hope will transform black Africa's biggest economy.

If all goes well, a small but significant part of the country's \$27 billion of foreign debt will be wiped out.

But government planners are treading gingerly and the interlinked programmes seem bound to start slowly because of safeguards against a welter of potential risks.

Inflation, drains on hard currency and a foreign buy-out of industry are among dangers to be avoided, according to officials, bankers and analysts interviewed in Lagos.

"We are experimenting for the time being," said Ismaila Usman, a Central Bank deputy governor in charge of Nigeria's first debt conversion scheme.

**Creditors**

Holders of promissory notes worth \$4.8 billion issued to uninsured trade creditors will be allowed to convert these at a discount into the naira currency.

But proceeds will be doled out for investment in priority businesses and cannot be used to buy foreign exchange.

Usman, who hoped to hold the first auction in September, did not feel the rules were too cautious in the effort to control inflation and flight of capital abroad.

"Nothing in the guidelines is immutable," he said.

The government simultaneously unveiled its privatisation plans in mid-July, but again experts predicted slow progress.

A decree listed 67 companies, from insurance to pig-farms, where the government will dispose of its 100 per cent equity.

**Surgery**

Another 25 firms, including the four main development banks, will see the state's stake cut to between 10 and 70 per cent.

"The book value of the companies to be privatised is between 10 and 15 billion naira (\$2.3 and 3.4 billion)," said Hayford Alije, director-general of Nigeria's Stock Exchange where the market value of the 102 quoted companies is only about 4.2 billion naira (\$1 billion).

"Looking at some of those companies, I don't think they will come on the market for two or three years," he added.

Many will need drastic surgery, bankers and investment industrial analysts said.

"Some of these companies don't have accounts, some have never operated profitably since the day they were created," said Tola Moholurin, a corporate finance banker.

"But things like oil-palm mills and plantations will go like hot cakes," he added, because of high demand for their products by Nigerian factories and commodity exporters.

Nigerian governments took a dominant role in the economy after independence from Britain in 1960, establishing hundreds of industries in the rush for development.

**Overdue**

Thirty years later, most of the enterprises are heavily indebted, poorly managed and overstaffed. Now the government of General Ibrahim Babangida hopes to raise billions of naira by selling them into competent private hands.

"Privatisation has been overdue for so long. It will loosen major sectors of the economy from the government's grip," said Pat Utomi, an economist with a car-assembly firm.

## Two more Saudi banks report improved first half earnings

RIYADH, July 17. (Reuters): Two of Saudi Arabia's nine joint-venture banks reported today a sharp improvement in first half 1988 earnings, confirming a broad-based recovery in kingdom bank profits this year.

Al Bank Al Saudi Al Hoffandi, known as 'Saudi Dutch', said net profit nearly doubled to 33 million riyals (\$8.8 million) from 17 million (\$4.5 million) a year ago.

Another joint-venture, United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB), reported a 6.7 per cent rise in underlying revenues and continued to cut costs in a drive to return to profitability.

**Loss**

USCB's figures still showed a small net loss of 1.4 million riyals (\$370,000) after reduction for provisions against bad loans, but the deficit was trimmed sharply from 12.1 million riyals (\$3.2 million) in the first six months of 1987.

Bankers said the results confirmed a picture of recovery in the Saudi banking industry after several years in which profits were hit hard by a Middle East recession and a series of problem loans to private companies which turned sour.

Seven of the kingdom's nine commercial banks which have foreign bank shareholdings have now reported stronger first half earnings, with Saudi American Bank — 40 per cent owned by the US giant Citibank — tripling six month net profit.

USCB trimmed loan provisions by 18.8 per cent to 16.4 million riyals (\$4.4 million), while Saudi Dutch put aside an unchanged 25 million riyals (\$6.7 million).

## Egypt has no plans to export natural gas

CAIRO, July 17. (Reuters): Egypt's Oil Minister was quoted on Thursday as saying his country had no plans to export natural gas, effectively ruling out a suggestion by US oil magnate Armand Hammer that Egypt build a gas pipeline to Israel.

In the early Friday edition of Al Ahram newspaper, Abdel Hadi Kandel said Egypt would not export natural gas until it had built up reserves for domestic consumption to last 20 years.

He did not say how long that would take, but added that Egypt's natural gas needs were growing as new power stations came on line.

## Application of law vital for tourism market, says Juma'a

By Abdul Karim Kazem



Hussain Makki Juma'a

THE Chairman of the Kuwait Travel and Tourist Offices Union Hussain Makki Juma'a has said that stability in the tourism arena will not be achieved without the application of the law regulating the market.

Juma'a said that the union contributed positively along with the Civil Aviation authorities in issuing the law regulating the tourism market. He added that although the law was issued in June 1987, the vital element of price had not been applied.

**Prices**

He disclosed that the government believed that price lists were high and constituted a big burden on the common man. The government wanted a revision in the prices to suit the income of the middle income group in a manner that it did not cause any losses to the airlines.

The official said that the Civil Aviation Authority had revised the prices and stipulated a new price level. The Union was asked to prepare their own study of prices and submit it for study.

The Union had submitted their price structure to the Minister of State for Services Affairs Issa Al Mazedi and is now awaiting the government's decision on the union's proposal. The union's prices took into account the ability of the middle income group in the country and the interests of the airlines.

Juma'a said that the IATA has lost some of its powers because

its decisions and resolutions are no more binding on members. Although its role in the world of travel and tourism has diminished, it still holds a very important position, he added.

Juma'a expressed the view that in winter, Kuwait could attract many tourists provided the government facilitated procedures for foreign tourists. He said that the government could follow other Gulf countries where hotels are allowed to issue visas to tourists.

**Losses**

He disclosed that in some Gulf countries tourist visas were provided at the airport through the local hotels. He believed that such measures would certainly help the local economy, hotels, tourist offices and others.

Juma'a concluded by stating that due to the price irregularities some international airlines were forced to withdraw because of losses. He added that this would certainly have adverse effects on the local economy and hoped the issue would be solved when the new unified price list is applied.

## Private sector must play a major role, says Britain

LONDON, July 17. (LPS): In its programme for regenerating the inner cities, the British Government has emphasised that the private sector must play a major role.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson is only one of the ministers who have drawn attention in recent speeches to the social responsibilities of business. The British people, he argued, "look to business to play their part in the social field in the inner cities and in other areas where they can be far more effective than bureaucratic agencies."

Already some 300 major concerns have shown their commitment to improving the localities in which they



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MERCEDES 250C coupe 1970, collectors car, in excellent condition. Reasonable price. Tele. 3985946.

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COLT GLX 1983, automatic with AC, white, registered up to 1989, KD400, cash. Tele. Mr Ray, 5385498, after 10 am.

(AT2-43220-2)

DATSUN box 1983, brown, manual with AC, electric windows, power steering, central locking and well-maintained in top condition. KD1200. Tele. 5656739.

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ISUZU Gemini, 1976 model, purchased in Sept. 1977, manual, rust colour, KD200, ono. Tele. 2457842/3 ext 30, 8 am-1 pm, 4-7 pm.

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MITSUBISHI Lancer, 1986, navy blue colour with AC, manual 39,000 km, in excellent condition. KD1,000 ono. Tele. Nasir Hassan, 2412309, 2424220, 8 am-12.30 pm, 4-7.30 pm.

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HONDA Prelude 1984, sky blue, automatic with AC, registered up to July 1989, maintained by the agent, in excellent condition. KD1600 ono. Tele. Sunil or Zachariah, 4815080, 4810832, 4815318, 8.30 am-4.30 pm.

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SAAB 900 GLC, 1982 fully automatic, with AC and new tyres, power controls. In excellent condition, mauve colour, lady-driven, registered up to April, 1989. KD1195. Tele. Carl, 3720195, after 4 pm.

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## Computers

IBM compatible PC-XT 840 KB memory 2x360K floppy, hard disk 20MB, colour monitor, keyboard, some software packages, in perfect condition. Tele. 5641927, 7-7.30 am, 9-11 pm.

(AT2-43224-3)

RADIO-SHACK model 1, micro-computer, D/D disk operating, stabiliser 110v, two disk drives, original Radio-Shack programmes GL/inventor/complan basic codes. Tele. Jo, 5759496.

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SPORTS

TENNIS

## Potter upsets Shriver

NEWPORT, R.I., July 17, (Reuters). Third-seeded Barbara Potter used her strong serve to win a pair of tiebreaks to upset American compatriot and top-seeded Pam Shriver at the \$200,000 Newport International tennis tournament.

Potter's 7-6 (7-5) 7-6 (7-5) victory earned her a berth in the final against countrywoman Lori McNeil who had to scramble to beat South African Ros Fairbank 3-6 7-5 6-3 in the grass court competition.

Potter, 16th in the world, relied on her serve to rescue her from trouble against Shriver, the two-time defending champion. Potter has won four of their nine matches.

Potter dropped her serve in the first game of the match but held service the rest of the way, escaping four break points with her hard left-handed serve.

Potter said that confidence in her serve yesterday enabled her to overcome any doubts brought on by her two previous tiebreaks to Shriver.

**Imports**

"When I feel my serve is going in, there is synchronicity in my entire game. The most important thing in tiebreaks is to get my serve in and be aware of where to hit the volley," Potter said.

Shriver dropped the eleventh point of each tiebreak on forehand volley errors.

"She played a fine match. Shriver said, 'but I missed things this week. I missed my serve and my legs. She was the toughest player in the tournament for me to play because of her serve.'"

McNeil, seeded second, rallied from one set down and 3-5 in the second set to ice her victory over Fairbank, a quarterfinalist on the grass courts at Wimbledon.

McNeil, ninth in the world, used her underspin groundstrokes and deceptive service returns to confuse the 42nd-ranked Fairbank in the final set.

## Agassi tames Gomez for title

STUTTGART, West Germany, July 17, (Agencies). Andre Agassi of the United States scored an easy 6-4 6-2 victory over Andres Gomez in the final of rain-delayed \$350,000 Stuttgart Men's Grand Prix tennis tournament today to take the title.

Agassi showed no effects of the tough semifinal match he had to play earlier in the morning in which he defeated Henri Leconte of France 7-5 7-5. The semifinals had to be rescheduled for this morning after rain washed out yesterday's programme.

Gomez, the number 11 seed for this tournament, seemed to be tired after playing his semifinal. Gomez thrashed Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina 6-3 6-1 in the morning.

Agassi, who was the number two seed, found Gomez put up a fight in the opening set but after he had settled into his game took the next set with very little effort.

Agassi, who has shown tremendous progress this year, did not take part in the Wimbledon tournament this year as his coach wanted him to gain more experience before he entered such a tough event.

## Swedish Open

BASTAD, Sweden, July 17, (Reuters). Result in the final of the Swedish Open tennis championships today (prefix number denotes seeding):

7-Marcelo Filippini (Uruguay) beat Francesco Cancellotti (Italy) 2-6 6-4 6-4.

## Griffith-Joyner and Joyner-Kersey provide new marks

# US athletes set world's best in four events

INDIANAPOLIS, July 17, (Reuters). There may never have been a day like it in recent athletics history.

Within two hours yesterday at the US Olympic trials, two world records tumbled and gusting winds pushed Carl Lewis to the fastest 100 metres ever and Willie Banks to the longest triple jump of all-time.

Sisters-in-law Florence Griffith-Joyner and Jackie Joyner-Kersey provided the world records.

Griffith-Joyner clocked an incredible, but controversial 10.49 seconds in a preliminary round of the women's 100 metres dash minutes before Joyner-Kersey broke the women's heptathlon record for the third time in two years with a score of 7,215 points.

**Bounded**

Lewis followed the world-record show by running the 100 metres in 9.78 seconds, after Banks twice had bounded beyond the 18-metre barrier in the triple jump final. The last — and the best — of the jumps spanned 18.20 metres.

Both performances were the best marks ever in the events but they cannot be considered world records because the wind on each was above the allowable 2.0 metres per second for record purposes.

Lewis's fantastic clocking was aided by a gust of 5.2 metres per second and Banks took advantage of winds ranging between 3.4 and 5.2 metres per second.

The awesome display of American sprint talent, which came on the second day of the nine-day meeting that will determine the US team for Seoul, may not be over, Griffith-Joyner said.

"I'm going to try to go faster Sunday," in the finals of the 100 metres, said the 1984 Olympic silver medalist in the 200 metres. "And I'll shoot for a world record in the 200 metres (later in the week)".

Some doubted, however, that her record in the 100 metres would ever be ratified as the replacement for Evelyn Ashford's 1984 world record of 10.76 seconds. The statisticians did not question the time, but the wind on the performance.

On the record-smashing race and the subsequent heat, the reading on the wind gauge at trackside was exactly 0.0 metres per second.

Some statisticians said that reading was impossible, but the operators of the wind gauge said they tested the machine after the race and found no problems.

Griffith-Joyner, wearing a bright green body suit with one leg exposed, had shown signs of her awesome ability in the event by exploding to a time of 10.60 seconds in the opening round. That performance, although wind-aided, was the fastest in history, until Joyner Griffith ran again, this time in a purple suit

equally as dashing.

Lewis, who turns his attention from the 100-metres dash to the 200 metres and long jump this week in an attempt to qualify for the US team in those events and duplicate his four-gold performance of 1984 at the Seoul Games, also hinted of more things to come.

Dennis Mitchell and world 200 metres champion Calvin Smith joined Lewis on the US 100 metres team for Seoul.

Jimmy Howard heads the men's high jump team as he cleared 2.34 metres yesterday in a competition that saw US co-record holders Tom McCanis and Jerome Carter bow out at 2.23 metres.

Cindy Greiner and Wendy Brown will team in the women's heptathlon with Joyner-Kersey, who was in tears less than an hour after her world record because.

Al Joyner, Jackie's brother and Florence Griffith Joyner's husband, failed by five centimetres to earn a trip to Seoul and an opportunity to defend his Olympic championship.

Riding the crest of the best first-day total ever in the heptathlon on Friday, Joyner-Kersey won the long jump with a leap of 7.00 metres and ran the 800 metres in two minutes, 20.70 seconds during a seven-hour period.

Only the first three finishers at the US trials qualify for the Seoul Games and Joyner was fifth as she leaped 17.58 metres.

Joyner-Kersey covered her eyes and began crying when the triple jump results were announced.

"It hurts," she said. "We are family. He is with me and I am with him. And I know how hard he worked."

Before the announcement, there had been much joy.

"I feel very happy," Joyner-Kersey said after the world record. "I wanted to make the team and set the record. At Seoul, I'll be hungry and motivated."

On Friday she began the quest for victory by finishing the 100 metres hurdles in 12.71 seconds, the high jump at 1.93 metres, the shot put at 15.65 metres and the 200 metres in 22.30 seconds.

She gave credit to her husband, Bob Kersey.

"If it hadn't been for Bob, I couldn't have made it."

Kersey had predicted the world record two days ago and then guided his wife to the mark.



Griffith-Joyner (left) gets a hug from Gail Devers after setting the record. (Reuters wirephoto)



Joyner-Kersey leaps 7.00 metres in the long jump on her way to a new record.

## Undisputed cruiserweight champion makes heavyweight debut

# Holyfield stops Tillis in 5th round



Holyfield (left) took the first step for a fight against Tyson

STATELINE, Nevada, July 17, (AP). Evander Holyfield took the first step on a campaign he hopes will lead to a title fight against heavyweight champion Mike Tyson when he stopped James "Quick" Tillis after five rounds last night.

It was the heavyweight debut for Holyfield, the unbeaten and undisputed cruiserweight champion.

**Serious**

Holyfield, who weighed 202 pounds (91.6 kgs), had the 29-year-old Tillis, at 210 (95.2 kgs), in serious trouble for the last half of the fifth round.

With Tillis sitting on his stool, his head bowed after the round ended, referee Richard Steele called Dr Ed Dehne into the corner. Dehne looked at Tillis briefly and stopped the fight.

Tillis, who in 1986 was the first man to go as many as 10 rounds with Tyson, was shaken several times in the five rounds, but never went down, although he was on the verge of doing so when the bell ended the fifth round.

Holyfield hurt Tillis with a hook during an exchange early in the fifth round. Later, he hurt him with a barrage of punches to the head that sent Tillis reeling along the ropes. Holyfield followed him and hurt him with a right uppercut and a left to the head. That combination put

Tillis against the ropes, where Holyfield worked him over with some savage punches to the head.

It was an action-filled fight that had a crowd of about 5,000 roaring, especially when the two men fired punches at each other after the bell ended the second round.

Just before the bell, Holyfield hurt Tillis with a right-left to the head and was working him over in Holyfield's corner. Tillis then began firing back and the two continued punching after the bell sounded.

Lou Duva, Holyfield's trainer, came up the steps and grabbed Tillis, apparently in an effort to break it up. Tillis then turned on Duva, as cornermen from both camps poured into the ring. Somehow a rope from Holyfield's corner also ended up in the ring.

## Met

While chaos reigned briefly, the two fighters met in the centre of the ring and touched gloves.

It was the seventh straight knockout for the 25-year-old Holyfield, of Atlanta, Georgia, who is 19-0 with 15 knockouts. Tillis, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, who lost a 15-round decision to Mike Weaver for the World Boxing Association heavyweight title in 1981, now is 38-14-1. Eight of those losses and the draw have come in his last 17 fights, dating back to 1984.

## New Zealand beat Britain

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, July 17, (AP). New Zealand advanced to the final of the World Cup Rugby League tournament with a 12-10 win over Great Britain in an international match at Addington stadium today.

The home side triumphed after a showdown in which both sides scored two first half tries and then settled down to a second-session battle.

The match-winning difference for New Zealand was the boot of kicker Peter Brown who landed two penalty goals to Great Britain's single penalty.

Hard-running Gary Freeman scored both New Zealand's tries.

## Brown KO's Vaca

KINGSTON, Jamaica, July 17, (Reuters). American Simon Brown knocked out Jorge Vaca of Mexico at two minutes and five seconds of the third round to retain his International Boxing Federation welterweight title yesterday.

The Jamaican-born Brown knocked down Vaca four times during the fight at Jamaica's open-air National Stadium.

## Stronger

"It was a good right hand-left hook (combination) that completed the job," Brown, 24, said afterward.

The bout was action-packed from the first round, with both men attacking, but Brown was clearly the stronger fighter.

The champion knocked Vaca down for the first time in the first round with a strong right and continued to punish him until the referee called for a standing eight-count.

In the second round, Vaca landed a few glancing rights but

Brown continued to attack with combinations, sending the Mexican to the mat two more times.

"Vaca is a very good fighter, a very tough fighter. I knocked him down three, four times, in the same round and he still gets back up... he has guts," Brown said.

In the third round, Brown continued to land combinations to the head and dropped the Mexican for the fourth and last time.

It was the second straight defeat for the rugged, 27-year-old Vaca, who briefly held the World Boxing Association's welterweight title last year.

Far from talking about retirement, Vaca said after the bout he would try to move up to the next weight division.

"I am stronger at a heavier weight. I lose something when I have to lose pounds to make welterweight," he said in his dressing room afterward.

Brown said his next fight would probably be against Bobby Joe Young of the United States.

## Banks defeats Hopson

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, July 17, (AP). World champion Kellee Banks, a Pan American Games champion, kept alive his hopes of going to Seoul when he beat Ed Hopson in the 125-pound (56.7-kilogram) bout of the Olympic box-offs yesterday.

Banks won a 4-1 decision, which was roundly booed by about 2,500 fans at the Caesars Palace Sports Pavilion.

## Invited

Had Hopson won, he would have made the Olympic team. The victory by Banks, invited to the box-off as a "most noteworthy" opponent, means the two must fight this evening for the Olympic berth.

The 6-foot (1.82-metre) Banks, a left-hander from Chicago, had lost 3 to 2 to Hopson in the semifinals of the Olympic trials. Banks scored well with some left jabs and right-hand counters but Hopson, a 5-foot-4 (1.62-metre) 17-year-old from Missouri, appeared to be the busier boxer.

"I thought it should have been 5-0," the 23-year-old Banks said, "but four judges saw me outbox him."

Riddick Bowe of New York forced a Sunday fight in the super

heavyweight division when he outscored US champion Robert Salter of North Carolina 3-2 in a dull, mauling bout.

The 248.5-pound (112.7-kilogram) Salter had stopped the 231-pound (104.8-kilogram) Bowe in the first round of the semifinals of the US Amateur Championships, which he won, and scored a 4-1 decision over Bowe in the Olympic trials final despite being knocked down in the first round.

There was a little action yesterday, and Bowe apparently gained the verdict with quite a few left jabs and being busier inside.

If an Olympic trials champion beats a "most worthy" opponent — elected by a six-man committee — he makes the Olympic team. If he loses, another fight is held on Sunday with the winner earning the Olympic berth.

## Sky

"I don't know why he thinks that I can work for four years, and he can come out of the blue sky for six months and go to Seoul," the 20-year-old Bowe said.

Salter, who began boxing in 1986, now has a 15-6 record. Bowe said his record is 201-7.

## BASEBALL ROUNDUP

# Pirates cut Giants down to size

NEW YORK, July 17, (AP). Only the weather is hotter than the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Mike Lavalieri's two-run double and pitcher Doug Drabek's two-run triple highlighted a six-run third inning as the Pirates routed the San Francisco Giants 10-1 last night for their eighth straight victory.

"You keep the other team on the field as long as we did and that's an advantage," Pirates manager Jim Leyland said. "When you have to stay out there in that heat it takes a lot out of you."

Giants manager Roger Craig agreed that hot and humid conditions are a sharp contrast to the generally cool climate at Candlestick Park.

"It doesn't seem to bother the other team," Craig said. "Maybe they're used to it. They're as hot as a firecracker right now. Everything they hit goes for a base hit."

The victory kept the second-place Pirates 2 1/2 games behind the Mets in the National League East.

Sid Bream and Tommy Gregg also had two runs batted in apiece for the Pirates, who matched their longest winning streak since 1983.

## Mets 3, Braves 2

Kevin McReynolds' pop fly double to right field with two outs in the eighth inning scored Dave Magadan from first base as New York beat home-standing Atlanta 3-2. The victory went to Edwin Nunez, 1-0.

## Expos 6, Reds 1

Tim Lincecum hit two home runs and Hubie Brooks added a two-run shot as Montreal defeated Cincinnati 6-1. Dennis Martinez, 10-7, pitched a six-hitter for his fourth complete game as the Expos won for the ninth time in 10 games.

## Twins 4, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, Kirby Puckett hit a two-run homer in the first inning, and Greg Gagne and Gary Gaetti added solo shots, powering the Minnesota Twins to a 4-3 victory over the Baltimore Orioles. Twins starter Fred Toliver, 1-1, pitched seven innings of five-hit baseball in 90-plus degree temperatures to record his first AL victory.

## Cubs 2, Dodgers 2

The Chicago Cubs and Los Angeles Dodgers were tied 2-2 in the ninth inning when rain forced postponement of the game, forcing it to be replayed in its entirety as part of a doubleheader today. Tim Belcher was to pitch against Jeff Pico in today's opener, with Chicago's Al Nipper facing Brian Holton in the second game.

## Cardinals 3, Padres 2

Luis Alcala's two-out single drove in the winning run as St. Louis scored twice in the ninth inning at home to beat San Diego 3-2 and snap an eight-game losing streak. Alcala's single off reliever Lance McCullers drove in pinch-runner Tom Lawless from third.

## White Sox 7, Yankees 4

Fred Manrique drove in three runs and Steve Lyons homered and hit a sacrifice fly as the Chicago White Sox beat the New York Yankees 7-4 in New York. Rookie Melido Perez, at 22 the youngest player on either team, improved his record to 9-5. Tommy John, the oldest player in the Majors at 45, fell to 7-3.

## Results

American League				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	7	7	.500	—
Detroit	10	4	.714	—
Chicago	7	7	.500	—
Oakland	4	4	.500	—
Minnesota	4	4	.500	—
Milwaukee	4	4	.500	—
Cleveland	8	8	.500	—
National League				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	7	7	.500	—
Pittsburgh	10	4	.714	—
Montreal	4	4	.500	—
New York	3	3	.500	—
St. Louis	3	3	.500	—
Chicago	2	2	.500	—

## Standings

National League				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	55	35	.611	—
Pittsburgh	52	37	.584	2 1/2
Montreal	47	42	.528	7 1/2
Chicago	45	43	.511	9
St. Louis	39	50	.438	15 1/2
Philadelphia	37	51	.420	17
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	51	36	.586	—
San Francisco	46	42	.523	5 1/2
Houston	44	44	.500	6 1/2
Cincinnati	43	47	.478	9 1/2
San Diego	41	50	.451	12
Atlanta	31	56	.356	20

## American League

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	53	35	.602	—
New York	51	37	.580	2
Boston	46	42	.523	7
Milwaukee	47	43	.523	7
Cleveland	46	45	.507	8 1/2
Toronto	44	47	.484	10 1/2
Baltimore	29	62	.319	25 1/2
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	50	39	.562	—
Minnesota	55	36	.604	4
Kansas City	44	44	.500	8 1/2
California	43	47	.478	11 1/2
Chicago	42	48	.467	12 1/2
Texas	40	49	.449	14
Seattle	36	54	.400	18 1/2

# Scifo dazzles in Bordeaux debut



Scifo: scored both the goals for his team

PARIS, July 17, (Reuters). Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo made a sparkling debut for his new club Bordeaux yesterday, scoring both goals in a 2-0 victory over Auxerre on the opening weekend of the French First Division soccer season.

Scifo, who disappointed Inter Milan last season after moving from Anderlecht, also provided a service of long floated passes for fellow-newcomers Clive Allen, from England's Tottenham, and World Cup striker Yannick Stopyra from Toulouse.

The tactic gave last season's runners-up clear supremacy on the pitch, and Scifo capitalised in the 38th minute after expertly chesting the ball to his left foot.

## Conjured

The Belgian, putting his stamp firmly on game one of the new season, conjured his way through a muddled Auxerre defence four minutes from the final whistle to net his second.

Auxerre missed the thrust of Eric Cantona, transferred to Marseille, but the international striker's new club suffered an early setback at home to Mont-

pellier when Gerard Bernardet put the visitors in front in the third minute.

World Cup striker Jean-Pierre Papin equalised nine minutes before half-time but Marseille pressure failed to produce another goal against a revamped Montpellier side in which Colombian midfielder Carlos Valderrama made his debut.

Newly-promoted Caen tasted defeat on their first outing in the top division, beaten 2-0 at Cannes.

But Sochaux celebrated their return to the First Division with a 3-0 away win over fellow-newcomers Strasbourg in the biggest win of the night.

Monaco, who deposed Bordeaux as champions last season, opened the season on Friday night with a 1-1 draw at Nantes in which Hangeley netted in the 28th minute.

The French First Division has this season adopted the English League scoring system, which gives three points for a win instead of the traditional two of other European Leagues.



● Syrian goalkeeper Walaed Islam grimaces as Arab scores their first goal in an Arab Football Championship match in Amman on Saturday. Jordan won the match 2-0 in qualify for the semifinals. In the second



## SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Becker wins

BREMEN, West Germany, July 17. (Reuters) Boris Becker beat Jimmy Connors 7-6 (7-2) 2-6 6-3 in an exhibition match today, his second victory over the American this weekend. Becker, using the encounters to warm up for West Germany's Davis Cup world group semifinal against Yugoslavia in Dortmund next weekend, had beaten Connors 7-5 6-4 in Munich yesterday.

## World records

PEKING, July 17. (Reuters) A 15-year-old Chinese girl has broken three women's world weightlifting records at a provincial sports meeting, the official New China News Agency said today.

## Illinois Classic

COAL VALLEY, Ill., July 17. (Reuters) American Blaioe McCallister continued to blister the par-70 course here, shooting a 63 yesterday for a four-shot lead entering the final round of the \$600,000 Illinois Classic golf tournament.

## Boston golf

DANVERS, Mass., July 17. (Reuters) American Colleen Walker shot a two-under-par 70 yesterday to take a four-stroke lead into the final round of the \$300,000 Boston Classic golf tournament.

## New mark

EAST BERLIN, July 17. (Reuters) Talented young East German athlete like Wyludde set a junior women's shot world record of 30.33 metres yesterday, a day after bettering her own junior discus world mark for the fourth time this year.

## Arab Cup

AMMAN, July 17. (Reuters) Tunisia drew with Lebanon 1-1 (half time 1-0) today in a Group One match of the fifth Arab Cup Championships in Amman. Scorers: Tunisia — Toufik Al Muhazabi (45th), Lebanon — Mahmoud Hammoud (65th).

## Women's tennis

BRUSSELS, July 17. (Reuters) Rain today forced postponement of the final of the Belgian women's tennis tournament until tomorrow, the organisers said.

## Cecchini triumphs

NICE, France, July 17. (UPI) Second seed Sandra Cecchini of Italy won down Nathalie Tauziat of France with soft, deep groundstrokes today to claim the championship of a \$100,000 women's clay-court tennis tournament by a 7-5, 6-4 score.

## Auto race

SUZUKA, Japan, July 17. (AP) Geoff Lees of Britain drove his March-88-GC to victory today in the fifth auto race of the six-event Grand Champion series, beating pole position starter Masanori Sekiya of Japan.

## Olympic berth

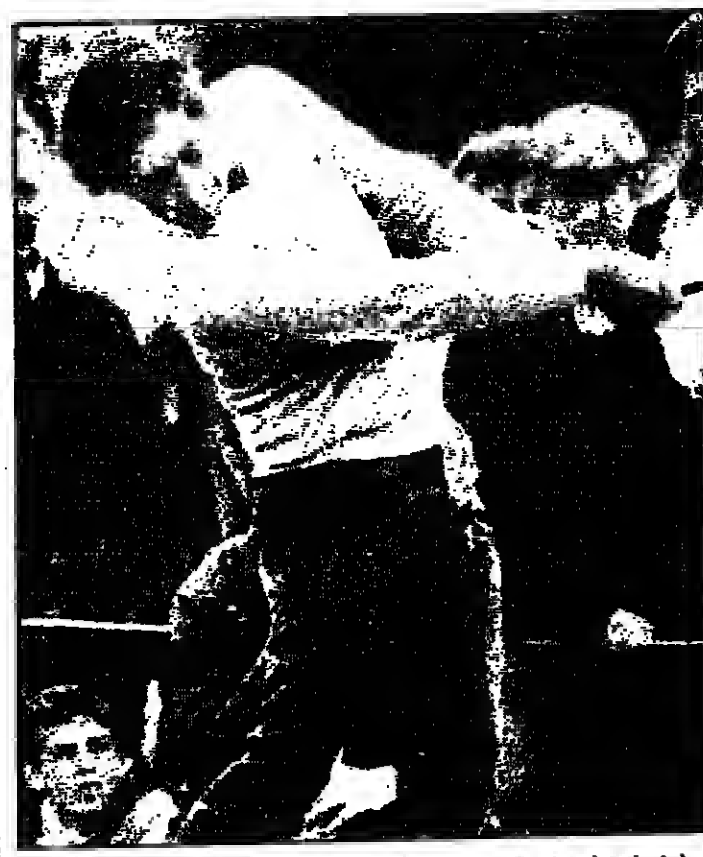
NEWPORT, Rhode Island, July 17. (AP) Mike Gehhardt, of Florida, earned the US Olympic berth in the Division II board-sailing class yesterday by outdistancing his chief rival, Bert Rice, in the seventh and final race on Rhode Island sound.

## Top finisher

BOCA RATON, Florida, July 17. (AP) Mario Martinez, a 1984 Olympic silver-medallist, was named the US Olympic weightlifting team's top finisher, following the conclusion of weightlifting trials last night.

## FALDO SHARES SECOND PLACE

## Price stays ahead of Ballesteros



Ballesteros powers his way out of the rough. (Reuters wirephoto)

LYTHAM ST ANNES, England, July 17. (Reuters) Nick Price of Zimbabwe stretched his overnight lead to two shots over Seve Ballesteros and titleholder Nick Faldo midway through the rain-delayed third round of the British Open golf championship today.

Price birdied the ninth hole to move two ahead after holding a three-shot lead when he birdied the sixth, only to see it drop to one after a bogey at the eighth.

Faldo played the front nine in two under and moved up to share second place with Ballesteros on a windy but dry day after the relentless rain yesterday.

## Forced

The third round was put back today after the previous day's bad weather forced a suspension and then cancellation of the third day's play.

The final round is to be played tomorrow.

Ballesteros survived what could have been a major setback at the 490-yard, par-five sixth hole. Players virtually count on a birdie four there, the Spaniard took six after driving into heavy bushes on the left.

He had to play out left-handed

and failed to emerge on his first attempt. His second shot did appear, he pitched to the edge of the green and got down in two putts to salvage a bogey.

That dropped him to three behind, but he played a magnificent bunker shot at the 549-yard par-five seventh for a birdie four, and when Price bogeyed the eighth, the Spaniard was just one behind again.

Price, meanwhile, birdied the first hole from eight feet, drove into a bunker and took a bogey at the fourth, then birdied the sixth. But the rough troubled him at the next and he could manage only a par, then he went through the green at the eighth and missed a six-foot putt to save par.

But his birdie at the ninth, from 10 feet, restored his lead to two shots.

Faldo began badly by missing a putt of 15 inches at the opening hole. But the tenacious Briton, who lost a playoff to American Curtis Strange for the US Open title last month, rolled in a 30-footer for birdie at the second and picked up further birdies at the sixth and eighth, where he holed from 20 feet.

Sandy Lyle of Britain, the US Masters champion who won the

1985 open, battled into contention by matching Faldo's outward half of 33 and collecting a birdie three at the 11th to move within three shots of Price.

Lyle birdied the third, sixth and seventh and took a single bogey at the fourth.

At that point, Price stood at six under par for the tournament, with Ballesteros and Faldo on four under and Lyle on three under.

American Andy Bean, who had a fabulous back nine of 32 in the second round on Friday, made three successive birdies on the front nine to the third round and was at two under par with eight holes to go.

## Contention

Jose Rivero of Spain, who won the Monte Carlo Open two weeks ago, edged into contention at three under but took a double bogey five at the 14th to drop back.

American Lanny Wadkins, who has won twice on the US tour this year, holed in one at the first today to get his round off to a spectacular start.

That improved his position to level par, but he dropped shots during his round and was unable to get fully into contention.

## South Africans trying to lure athletics stars

JOHANNESBURG, July 17. (Reuters) South African athletics officials said today they would welcome with open arms overseas track and field stars if they decided to compete here.

Danie Malan, vice-president of the South African Amateur Athletics Union, said his organisation was not officially involved in negotiations to recruit European and US athletes to come here.

But he told reporters he was aware that independent promoters were discussing with overseas athletes the possibility of competing in South Africa.

The Afrikaans-language newspaper Rapport said today that agents were trying to attract foreign athletes here after the Seoul Olympics.

The newspaper said two athletes who had already been approached were pole vaulter Mike Tully and fellow-American Mike Conley, the long and triple jumper.

"They would be welcome here," Malan said.

He added that his union president, Charles Nieuwoudt, had also said he would be delighted if overseas athletes visited South Africa.

## Suspended

South African athletes were excluded to the international wilderness after the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) suspended their country more than 10 years ago because of its apartheid race policies.

Malan said that since then local athletes had been at pains not to transgress IAAF rules in the hope of being allowed back in competition.

But he said the attitude of South African officials and athletes had hardened against the IAAF recently because sport had fulfilled all international requirements for full racial integration.

He said athletics had taken the lead in removing apartheid and black athletes now dominated road running and cross country events.

"Despite all our efforts which have gone into normalising the sport the IAAF have given us no encouragement," Malan said.

South Africa has more than 50 athletes who would qualify for the Olympic Games in South Korea if the country had not been barred.

Briton Donnie McLeod and was assisted from the track.

"Mang has broken his left collarbone and now must be questionable for a start at Ricard (the French Grand Prix set for next weekend)," a team spokesman said following the race.

Pons retains a tenuous four point lead over Garriga in the championship standings, with two members of the 'old guard,' Jacques Cornu of Switzerland and West German Reinhold Roth in third and fourth slot. Mang's failure to finish drops him to place six in the standings. Jorge Martinez continued to dominate both the 80cc and the 125cc class.

## Nearest

The Spaniard has won five of six 80cc fixtures this season and with a 42 championship point lead over his nearest rival (Alejandro Criville of Spain) seems likely to have the class (which is being contested for the last time this season) wrapped up.

In the 125cc class, Martinez employed the same winning tactics and also took his fifth victory from six races. His closest rival is Ezzi Gianola of Italy, who jostled for the lead several times during the race but was outclassed in the final stages.

## Greenidge hits half century

LEICESTER, England, July 17. (Reuters) Leicestershire were 33 for four in reply to West Indies' first innings of 370 all out on the second day of their three-day cricket match today.

West Indies' Gordon Greenidge, who retired last yesterday, was the top scorer for his team with 75. Greenidge showed very little effects of his illness as he hammered the Leicestershire bowlers for his half century.

Carl Hooper, unbeaten on 54 overnight, went for 26 while Jeff Dujon scored 51 and Roger Harper 47.

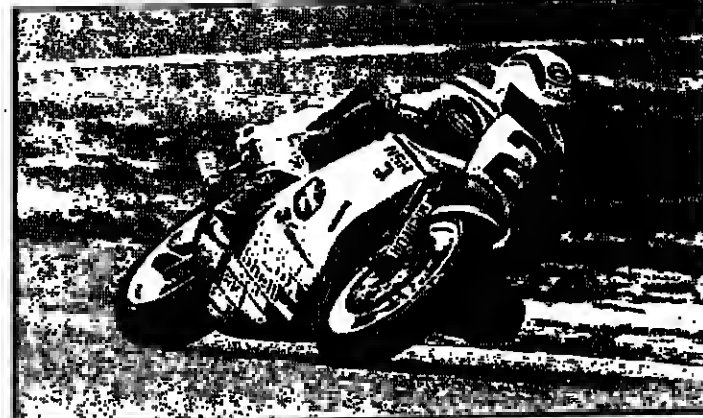
## Gardner scores 3rd straight victory

RIJEKA, Yugoslavia, July 17. (UPI) Australian Hooda rider Wayne Gardner notched up his third successive 500cc Grand Prix victory when he won the Yugoslavian title today.

Frenchman Christian Sarron on a Yamaha was second and American Wayne Rainey, also driving a Yamaha, was third. Gardner, the current world champion started in the front row and had secured the lead before the first lap was over. Sarron started on pole position and hung onto the leader's wheel until the 17th lap before Gardner opened the distance between the two.

American Eddie Lawson who has a commanding lead in the overall standings in the current season dislocated his shoulder at training yesterday. Lawson raced, but refused to take risks. He finished tenth and added six championship points to his already impressive tally.

With four more fixtures to go and 80 points up for grabs Gardner may be able to yet catch the Californian. After the Yugoslavian race today the gap separating the two narrowed to 20 points in Lawson's favour. However the reticent Australian refused to speculate on the outcome.



Gardner: closes gap on Lawson

"After Salzbur (where Gardner's works Honda seized), I am just taking every race as it comes — and trying to win as many as possible," he said.

Gardner said he had decided to slow down the pace of the race in the middle section in the hope of having "something in reserve" to shake off the determined challenge of Sarron.

Sarron said he had had "a perfect race," but knowing Gardner was faster was not prepared to risk overtaking.

The 250cc class went to Spaniard Sito Pons riding a Honda. Yamaha riding countryman

Juan Garriga was second and Frenchman Dominique Sarron, also riding a Honda took third.

The 250cc championship is the most closely contested in the current season, and world champion Toni Mang of West Germany has described it as "more brutal than ever before."

The 39-year-old Mang's recent claim that the younger brigade of riders are hungry for victory and are prepared to risk everything was further underlined when he was involved in a collision during a tussle for position on the first curve. The West German collided with

## Gatting hits 50th first-class ton

LONDON, July 17. (Reuters) Mike Gatting, who earlier this week told the England selectors he was "not in the right frame of mind," to play Test cricket, struck 180 for Middlesex against Glamorgan in the English County Championship at Lord's yesterday.

The former England skipper reached the 50th first-class century of his career off only 119 balls. When he was eventually caught off Geoff Holmes, Gatting had 23 boundaries under his belt.

He shared in a third-wicket

stand of 284 in 61 overs with opener Wilf Slack, whose unbeaten 163 included 13 fours. Middlesex eventually declared at 420 for three and Glamorgan were 17 for one in reply at the close of the first day.

England's new captain Chris Cowdrey did not have such a happy day for Keat against Surrey at Guildford. He was run out for only four after a mix-up over a second run with South African Roy Pienaar.

Pienaar went on to make 88 and Trevor Ward thrashed 13 fours and a six in his 72 to lift

Kent to 324 for nine at the close. Ninth-wicket pair Richard Illingworth and Neal Radford saved Worcestershire's blushes against county champions Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge.

They came to the wicket with Worcester totalling at 39 for eight and put on 113 before Illingworth was caught at second slip off Franklyn Stephenson for 58. The innings ended at 159 when Stephenson trapped Radford leg before for 65 to finish with five for 52 from 21 overs. Kevin Cooper had four for 40 from 20 overs.

## England revamp squad for fourth Test

LONDON, July 17. (Reuters) England, routed by West Indies in their last cricket Test, revamped their squad today for the fourth Test at Headingley starting on Thursday.

Chris Cowdrey, the third captain to lead England in the series after two defeats in three Tests, begins his new job with only five members of the side destroyed by an innings and 156 runs in the third Test at Old Trafford.

Batsmen Robin Smith and Tim Curtis have been picked to make their Test debuts against the formidable West Indian pace attack in which Malcolm Marshall has already claimed 26 victims in the series.

Four players with considerable Test experience have been recalled — batsman Bill Athey, all-rounder Derek Pringle, wicket-keeper Jack Richards and fast bowler Neil Foster.

David Gower, lining up for his 100th Test appearance, Graham Gooch, Allan Lamb, Graham Dilley and Jonathan Childs are the only players retained from the last squad, with left-arm spinner Childs likely to be 12th man.

Mike Gatting, sacked as captain after the first Test, had



Tim Curtis

already said he did not wish to be considered, while his successor as skipper, John Emburey, loses his place in the clear-out.

Gatting also opted out of the second Test after he lost the captaincy when he was judged to have acted irresponsibly in inviting a woman to his hotel room during the first Test.

He told the selectors before the latest squad was chosen he was not in the right frame of mind to be considered.

David Capel, Martyn Moxon,



Robin Smith

Paul Downton, Phillip De Freitas and Old Trafford 12th man Chris Broad also disappeared from the squad.

Peter May, chairman of the selectors, played down the extent of the shake-up.

"We didn't want to go overboard in making changes, although we felt they had to be made. We have kept a strong element of experience with Gooch, Gower and Lamb," he said.

"Curtis has been in our minds for a long time. Athey had

demand selection, while Smith has been considered in previous seasons. He is a player with guts and character."

Gower is set to become the fourth player to complete 100 Tests, joining the exalted company of Colin Cowdrey, the new England captain's father, Indian run-machine Sunil Gavaskar and former West Indies captain Clive Lloyd.

"It is a very special landmark and it would be nice to celebrate with a special performance, both personally and collectively. It's obviously an added incentive for me to make things work," said Gower, who needs only 15 runs to become the fourth Englishman to make 7,000 in Test.

Opener Curtis has been one of English cricket's most consistent performers on the county circuit, averaging 50 in each of the last three seasons.

Athey's Test career had looked finished, but the in-form batsman earned his recall with an aggregate of 938 runs at an average of 78 this season.

South African-born Smith, whose brother Chris has played eight Tests for England, showed his stroke-making class on the

Lord's stage a week ago with a brief but brilliant 38 which helped Hampshire win a one-day Cup final.

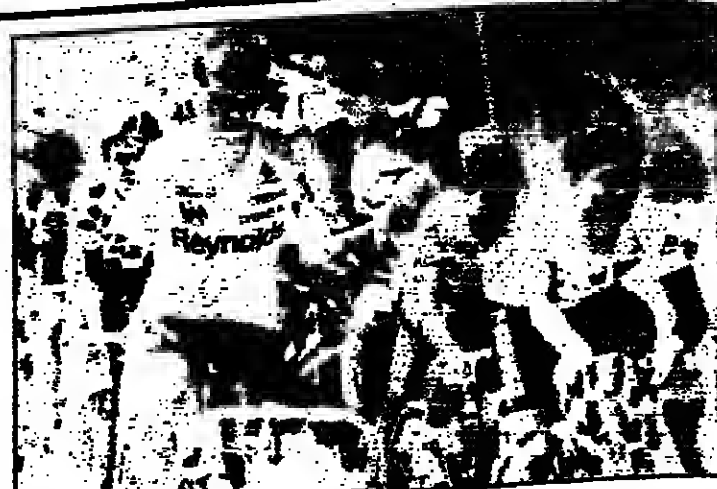
The last brothers to play for England were also born in South Africa — Tony Greig, who captained England in the 1970s and his brother Ian, who made two Test appearances in 1982.

Wicket-keeper Richards featured in England's victorious Ashes tour of Australia two winters ago but has played in only one Test since. His batting form gave him the edge.

Returning Foster has taken 41 wickets in the last five weeks since returning to the game after a long lay-off with a knee injury.

His last match for England was the bicentennial Test against Australia in Sydney in January when he broke down and was flown home for an operation to remove floating fragments of bone from his knee.

Squad: Chris Cowdrey (captain), Bill Athey, Jonathan Childs, Tim Curtis, Graham Dilley, Neil Foster, Graham Gooch, David Gower, Allan Lamb, Derek Pringle, Jack Richards, Robin Smith.



Delgado puts on his glasses after the climbing of the Agnos pass. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Italian wins 14th stage of Tour de France

GUZET-NEIGE, France, July 17. (AP) Massimo Ghirotto of Italy won the 14th stage of the Tour de France today after France's Philippe Bouvartier and Britain's Robert Millar took a wrong turn while leading the race less than 300 metres from the finish.

"There was a policeman gesturing and I thought he was gesturing to us," Bouvartier said about the incident.

Near the end of the stage, cars following the riders are diverted by signs and policemen to allow the cyclists to continue on to the finish line alone.

Bouvartier and Millar were ahead of Ghirotto until the final hill of the 163-kilometre leg from Blagnac to Guzet-Neige. They had broken away from the pack early and held about a 10-minute margin throughout the last 80 kilometres.

Approaching the finish, Bouvartier and Millar became confused and followed a policeman's signal and some arrows straight on instead of making a left turn.

"The riders should know the course, but there was a problem with the signs," Millar said.

Ghirotto made the correct turn and went into the lead and won. His time was four hours, 30 minutes, 34 seconds.

Millar realized his mistake first and came back out to finish two seconds behind. Bouvartier came back to end up third, 13 seconds behind the Italian.

In the overall standings, Pedro Delgado of Spain slightly lengthened his lead. He was at the head of the pack that followed the small group of breakaway riders.

The women continue their way to a July 24 finish in Paris with a 58 kilometre leg from Luchon to St Marie de Campan tomorrow.

## Galaxy outclass Scorpion

GALAXY Cricket Club thrashed Scorpion Cricket Club by 94 runs in a Friendship Cup match at the Airport-Millat ground on Friday.

Galaxy, after winning the toss, batted first and put on 203 runs for the loss of six wickets in 24 overs. Razzak was the top scorer with 102. He hit four sixes and eleven fours.

Wickets Ghulam Haider hit two sixes in his 37 while Riaz Chaudhry scored 19 and Idrees 15. For Scorpion, Sarfraz Iqbal and Mustafa got two wickets each while Ejaz and Ashraf got the other two.

In reply, Scorpion were only able to score 108. Sarfraz scored 30 and Ashraf 21.

For Galaxy, Iftikhar got two



Razzak: scored 102

wickets while Riaz Mian, Javed Shah, Habib and Taj Malik got one each. Two batsmen were run out.

After two matches, Galaxy and Kheitan now share the top position with 22 points each. Scorpion and Golden Stars have yet to earn a point.

On Friday, Galaxy meet Golden Stars.

## Xiong edges past Sompol

BANGKOK, July 17. (Reuters) Top-seeded Xiong Guobao of China faced a tough challenge from local contender Sompol Kukasemj before he captured the men's singles title at the Thailand Open badminton championships today.

Although the top-ranked Chinese won the final in straight

sets, 18-15 15-13, the eight-seeded Sompol put up a good fight for nearly an hour, with the second set stretching out to 39 minutes.

The left-handed Sompol, a master of the drop shot, had Xiong reaching out in vain time and again at the net.



● The Kuwait International Finance Company (KIFCO) recently celebrated their victories in the 1987-88 cricket season. The KIFCO squad won five major tournaments — Malhotra, Al Mulla, Gulf Air, Qusaid-Azam and KCL. The Ambassador of Pakistan to Kuwait, Zahid Saeed (sitting, third left) was the chief guest at the reception.